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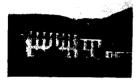
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Lonngo hall, cloakroom,
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To modernised Georgian Mansion House of
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10 bedrooms, 3 bath, 4 reception rooms. Main electric light and power. Ample water. Pentral Heating. STABLING. GARAGES. FLAT. BUNGALOW. COTTAGE. ATTRACTIVE GARDENSAND PARKLIKE MEADOWLAND, ABOUT 27 ACRES
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HIGH CHILTERNS-650 FEET UP



DESIGN, creeted 1925 and alt south and south-west with fine view tion, 4 bedrooms, 2 dressing, 4 baths. UNCONVENTIONAL amaisone recruitment of the control BITWEEN HABLEMERR AND FERNHURST, 15 industes from station by text, 560 feet up. Ainout on the Norway hender claw to famous Blackdown Hill, 16 industrial the state of the Norway Bender claw to famous Blackdown Hill, 16 industrial the Norway of the original olds world characteristics: traditional interfor. S reception, 4 bedrooms, 2 hathnowns, 2 drewing-rooms, Amery (45 ft. 4 bedrooms, 2 hathnowns, 2 drewing-rooms, Amery (45 ft. 4 bedrooms, 2 hathnowns, 2 drewing-rooms, 2 ft. 4 bedrooms, 2 hathnowns, 3 drewing-rooms, 2 ft. 4 bedrooms, 2 hathnowns, 3 drewing-rooms, 4 ft. 5 ft. 18 ft. 18

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ON BUS ROUTE, 500 feet up in Herts, adjoining Galf Course.

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On high ground enjoying good open views. Few minutes watk village shops, thurth, bus route, etc.
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Adjoining West Hill Golf Course

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ATTRACTIVE MODERNISED FARM-HOUSE, facing south. 2 reception, 4 large-bed, bath (h. & c.). (oskanheat range, Ideal boiler. Excellent buildings and 20 acres rich land with stream.

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THOROUGHLY MODERNISED AND IN EXCELLENT ORDER Hall, 5 reception, 5 bath, 14 bearings, 2 large attention, modern offices, bearing group of a nut stabiling. Central heating. Main electric light. Modern drainage. Unfailing water stupply.

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ABOUT 280 ACRES

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IN THE CENTRE OF THE COTTESMORE HUNT

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THIS CHOICE ESTATE

lying compactly together in a ring fence affording excellent shooting. Approached by 2 carriage drives with Lodge entrances.

15 bedrooms, 9 atties, 5 bathrooms, billiards and 4 reception rooms, Kitchen with Aga cooker Central heating. Electric light. Good water supply. BEAUTIFULLY TIMBERED GROUNDS, 2 HARD TENNIS COURTS, 2 LARGE FISHPONDS, WALLED KITCHEN GARDEN, ETC. GOOD COTTAGES, LARGE FARMERY.

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Between Northampton and Kettering, with an excellent hus AN ATTRACTIVE STONE-BUILT HOUSE



Hall, 3 reseption rooms, 7-9 bedrooms, bathroom COTTAGE. STABLING, GARAGE. tured grounds with specimen trees and shrubs, nie lawn, kitchen and fruit garden, paddock, in ali

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A WELL-BUILT MODERN HOUSE ALL ON TWO FLOORS

with Hall, 3 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, bathroom. Co.'s water. Electric light. Two Garages.
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Salmon and Trout Fishing in the Wye 4 reception rooms, 10 bedrooms, 2 bathroom Electric light, main water. Central heating. 2 Cottages (let). Garage, stabling-Pleasure gardens of about 2 acres, pasture, woodland, etc., in all about 18 ACRES.

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A Beautiful Georgian Mansion in an Extensive Park



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A most convenient situation a few minutes from buses running to Watford, etc.

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On two floors: Lounge hall, drawing room, dining room, 6 bedrooms, modern bathroom. Electric light. Radiators.
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DATING FROM THE LATE GRORGIAN PERIOD

Hall, 4 reception rooms, 11 bed and dressing rooms, 4 bathrooms. All in good order and equipped with modern requirements.

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SEPARATE HOT WATER SUPPLY. STABLING AND GARAGES

Nextling amongst the hills with lovely views,

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Delightful grounds with fine old trees, and a wealth of rare flowering shruhs of great botanical interest. Walled kitchen garden with glasshouses. Pasture and Woodland.

VALUABLE BUILDING PRONTAGE WHICH COULD BE SOLD WITHOUT SPOILING THE AMENITIES OF THE PROPERTY.

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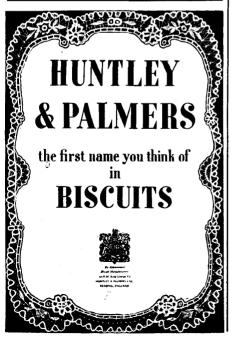


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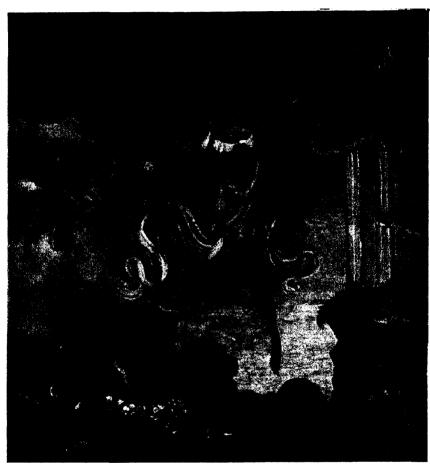
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LOTUS



COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. XCVIII. No. 2554

DECEMBER 28, 1945



LADY MOYRA BROWNE

Lady Moyra Browne, who is the only daughter of the Earl and Countess of Bessborough, was married on December 10 to Mr. Denis J. Browne, F.R.C.S., son of the late Mr. Sylvester Browne and Mrs. Browne of Sydney, Australia.

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TRAINING FOR FORESTRY

THE Forestry Fund having been re-plenished by £20,000,000 on a five-year basis--while the Commissioners' Fiftyyear Plan is being more closely adjusted to land use of other kinds—the question arises how much employment our woodlands can provide. The Fifty-year Plan assumes the afforestation of 5,000,000 acres and the eventual employment of 50,000 men at full time in the forests and 200,000 in forest industries. Expansion, however, will be slow at first and its date will depend largely on the supply of foresters and foremen able to supply others with adequate training. Sir Roy Robinson gives a figure of 5,000 skilled men as the number that Forestry is ready to absorb, but it will not be easy to find them immediately. The yocational training scheme for Service men is to be applied to forestry, and men without forestry experience-as in the case of farming-are t be given a year's training on a selected forest estate, either State-owned or privately owned, Maintenance and dependents allowances will be paid and wives will be encouraged to live with their husbands near the places of training.

How is the training to be supplied? two Royal Forestry Societies pointed out last year that the most urgent requirements as far as immediate work is concerned will be the clearing away of debris from woods and the replanting of land before it becomes any fouler with weeds and undergrowth. Arrears of thin-ning, fencing and draining will also have to be made up, and though much of this work can be done by men who are only acquiring their know-ledge of forestry, it will require competent supervision by foremen with sufficient knowledge to carry out the work economically. The first educational duty of the Forest Authority will therefore be to select and train a large number of forest foremen. The number of trained foresters before the war, taking national forests and estate woodlands together, did not exceed 1,000, and the Forestry Societies have suggested a figure of 2,000 for immediate training. The Commissioners' plans in this direction have not been made public, but it can be assumed that the expansion of the industry and the encouragement of aspirants to this attractive and adventurous branch of open-air life is being thought out with due regard to the necessary grading of the N.C.O.s of the forest world and the specialist training which many of them will

The status of foresters and woodmen on private estates is of course less fixed than in the State forests, and it may be assumed that a State forests, and it may be assumed that a great many of iff we entrants will be given their training in wately-owned woodlands. It will certainly be a relief to owners to be offered suitable labour, either skilled or un-

skilled, and now that the Government have definitely announced their intention of calling upon owners to relieve the Forestry Com-missioners of what would anyhow be a heavy strain on their resources, it may be hoped that the financial aid afforded them will be sufficient not only to enable them to keep their woodlands in good condition and to undertake replanting on an effective scale, but to provide the necessary training for the woodmen and foresters of the future. It is worth repeating in this regard that of all the timber supplied to the nation during the war for its many needs, no less than 95 per cent. came from private woodlands, which are sadly in need of replanting as a result. It is also a fact that owners and experts with a wide and practical knowledge of hardwood forestry are inclined still to consider that the Commissioners' qualifications and policy are unwisely limited by their concentration on the growing of conifers. Trainees who cannot find jobs on private estates are to be found them in the State forests, but they are likely to find a broader and more varied experience elsewhere. State training in silviculture and conservation has always been good; in the day-to-day operations of the forester, not so good. Now is the time to improve it.

DECEMBER

BOUGHS gone black and Winterbare;
No brightness anywhere; Grey rain spilling from the eaves; Underfoot the sodden leaves; Even the robin silent now: Nothing green along the plough: And yet the year has room, you say, For April buds and blossom of May.

IOHN BUXTON.

THE NATIONAL THEATRE

Y exchanging the restricted island-site in By exchanging the restricted man be the South Kensington for that overlooking the river between Charing Cross and Waterloo Bridges, the National Theatre Committee and the L.C.C. are both gainers, as the public will no doubt be also. The Committee gets an area more than twice the size, enabling the realisa tion of their full requirements, for the price of the smaller site, and the L.C.C. gets the nucleus of the entertainment and recreation centre projected for this part of the South Bank in the County of London Plan. On the face of it, this unrivalled riverside position, close to the Old Vic with its traditions of national drama, is the most satisfactory of possible conclusions to the long-drawn National Theatre project. On the other hand, Mr. James Agate has pointed out some of the pitfalls in the path of repertory-aridity, bleakness, educational" failure to attract -which must be overcome by the twin houses being real theatres in the plush-and-gilt tradition, with a first-rate restaurant. Incidentally, a novel by Mr. Robert Speaight published a decade ago, The Angel in the Mist, contains a remarkable prevision of an imaginary National Theatre on this very site, Architecturally this focal site demands superb treatment but presents certain difficulties. Theatres on open sites are apt to prove intractable shapes, as is seen in the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre at Stratford. It is sad that Sir Edwin Lutyens, who had designed the building for the Kensington site, is not alive to turn this much greater opportunity to full effect.

PARKS AND PARKING

R. SILKIN'S address on car parking MR. SILKIN'S address on the parameter of the Institutions of Civil and Municipal Engineers was, he told them, prepared before he became a Minister and therefore contained no announcement of Government policy on the problem. Nevertheless he outlined what must clearly be that policy, considering the estimate that in 1955 there may be ten million cars on the roads as compared with 2,714,600 in 1939 and 1,680,000 in 1927. Already the parking problem in London and large towns is beginning to assume pre-war dimensions, while both the permitting and prohibition of street parking are equally

intolerable. Of the solutions, multi-storeved garages can never cope with the peak demand:
Mr. Silkin pointed out that such garages, to
accommodate the 7,000 cars estimated to need parking in the London theatre area alone, would cover, at the maximum permitted height, 7 acres and be prohibitively expensive. Parks under open spaces and in the basements of buildings such as stores would be a more prac-tical method if each car, including space for managuvring, did not require 300 sq. ft., thus greatly reducing the capacity, and increasing the running cost, of such parks. He referred, however, to a mechanical device enabling cars to be packed side by side and end to end, on movable platforms which, by electric power, are selected and "served up" when required. In this way the space needed per car is reduced to 130 sq. ft. This remarkable invention, if used by local authorities and businesses in underground local authorities and businesses in unuconstand basement garages, would go far to overcome the present impasse. Talking of impasses, Mr. Silkin has also promised Ramblers to produce legislation soon on those affecting National Parks and Access to Mountains. There is Parks and Access to Mountains. There is unqualified demand for the former, but what the rambling brotherhood forget about "unculti-vated land" is that it produces a not negligible supply of food, and the chief source of income (in normal times much of it from America) of otherwise poor districts, which public access could easily destroy,

PLACE NAMES AND THEIR SOUNDS

IT appears to have been laid down by the High Court that "only strangers" call Cirencester "Cisseter." This is near the truth. but with all respect to so august an authority it is not yet quite the whole truth. "Some hoaryheaded swain," who has lived and whose ancestors have lived long in that countryside, may still be heard to use the old pronunciation, but it is admittedly and sadly rare. This is one of the lamentable results of that which is otherwise admirable, the spread of education. When people did not go to school they were content to pronounce place names as their fathers had done before them. Now that they do they have conceived the notion or imbibed it from their teachers that the truly refined pronounce exactly as they spell, and that there is something to be ashamed of in an older custom. The phenomenon is particularly noticeable in those names in which the letter O, coming before N or M, has for centuries been pronounced as U. London still keeps its ancient sound, but it may not do so much longer, especially if the flute-like voice which talks to us apparently flute-like voice which talks to us apparently from the station roof is taken as an example. "They've learnt per-nouncin," said the old parish clerk in Silas Marner. "That's come up parish clerk in Silas Marner. "That's com-since my day." Would that it never had!

RACING AND THE PHOTO-FINISH

SIR HUMPHREY DE TRAFFORD'S speech whole encouraging to those who go racing, for he said that the Jockey Club would concentrate on cheaper and better accommodation for the public. He was not too sanguine about the rebuilding of stands, which must clearly be a long job, but he gave a hopeful list of courses that would be available next year and an assurance that Epsom would be ready for the Derby. One interesting point in his speech was that a committee had been appointed to investi-gate the "Photo-finish" camera, and that trials would probably take place in January at Newmarket. Whatever the sport, judges are fallible and it would seem that the camera must save mistakes. The famous dead-heat in the University Boat Race was deemed at least by one side to be nothing of the sort. On the other hand a photograph recently reproduced in some daily papers of two greyhounds finishing showed the most perfect dead-heat that can be imagined. It is of course possible to carry the principle too far, and it is to be hoped for instance that a Rugby football match will never come to a stop in order that a photograph may be developed show in g whether or not the touch judge was right n his momentous decision. Some decisions must still be left to unaided human nature.

A Countryman's Notes...

By Major C. S. JARVIS

OR the last two years or more there have been constant complaints from all over the country of the almost complete disappearance of the green plover, or pewit, and I have raised my voice in lamentary and the state of the green plover, or pewit, and I have raised my voice in lamentary and the state of the prover is worth his weight his gold to the farmer, he is one of my favourite birds, and the wide Avon valley with its miles of plough land and water-meadow was one of his favourite hunts, so that in the past, when driving to Salisbury, I would see a big flock of plover at work in a field practically every half-mile of the journey. Then, here in common with the rest of England, the green plover disappeared almost completely, and various explanations were advanced, but the most probable one—the demand for the birds at 3s. 6d. apiece in the London markets—could not have been the reason for the elimination of the species in the Avon valley, as practically the whole length of this river is in the hands of big land-owners, who preserve the shooting carefully and who have enough sense and enough foresight to protect the green plover.

DURING the last week, however, 1 have seen two large gatherings of green plover which would suggest that the situation is not as bad as we imagined. On the shores of a large shallow lake near Alresford in the Itchen valley I noticed a huge flock of hirds, which at first I thought must be gulls, but when they rose from the ground, with distinct measured wing-beats and a display of black and white as they turned, I realised that a contingent of our old friends were back again and in some considerable numbers.

Two days later on a clear afternoon I saw that there was considerable bird movement taking place up a three-mile stretch of the Avon valley. One pack of some two to three hundred birds was manœuvring in the air at a distance of a quarter of a mile from me, and, so far as I could see, there were similar large flocks circling over the water for the whole length of the river, the most distant of these being mere blurs against the clear sky. I was able to identify four of these big packs as plover, and it is reasonable to suppose that the remainder, a concourse running into a thousand or more, were all of the same species.

PANELS on the tombs of Egypt prove that natural history was studied far more carefully in the very early dynasties than it is in that country to-day. One of the commonest scenes depicted on the tombs of long-departed officials in that once over-officialed country is the Controller of Pyramid Construction, or the President of the Hyksos War Re-settlement Committee, seated in an arm-chair on a dais, with queues of the ordinary common tax-paying people lined up and bearing gifts which consist, not only of domestic animals and birds, but also of every known species of wild fauna and feather, from the oryx antelope to the pintail duck and the mountain ibex to the whooper swan.

It goes to prove that which one must do to exist in an official-ridden country, and with the existing shortage of domestic and wild stock in this country, together with the almost complete disappearance of the rabbit, I am afraid we shall not be able to put up nearly such a



WINTER ON THE RIVER RODING, ESSEX

good show at propitiation as did the Egyptians in the days of the Pharaohs.

RECENTLY my car has been suffering from that distressing, and now almost universal, complaint-a run-down battery-and, with a long waiting list at every garage for replacements, it had become necessary to swing the starting handle. This is a performance, which we used to do with reluctance in the days before self-starters were invented, and now carry out with exasperation bordering on fury, as with my model, and with many others, the fitting-in of the starting-handle is a job for an expert machinist who works to thousandths of an inch, and the turning over of the engine is a task for a Hercules. The battery went into the garage several times for a re-charge, came out after treatment rejuvenated and full of energy, but during the night a serious relapse would set in, and the weakness would be even more marked in the morning.

Then by chance I met at a country hotel an old friend of my desert days—an Egyptian car-driver, who has recently been working at the Egyptian Embassy in London. The meeting was most refreshing as, with the Egyptian gift of tact and of saying the right thing on all occasions, he told me I was looking younger than when I left his country nine years ago, that my old Province was all right but nothing like as good as it was in my days, and a few other pleasing remarks of that nature. As that

morning our milkman, on seeing my Scottie coming slowly down the lane, had said: "Ah, he's suffering from the same complaint as his master—he's getting old," I was feeling in need of a stimulant—even one of an Oriental nature, which should not be taken at its face value, but which nevertheless is preferable sometimes to brutal British veracity.

LATER on, when the self-starter of the car refused to function owing to the weakness of the battery, my friend took a professional look at the works, and said: "Hut shout mopyet on nar fike" (Put some water of fire in it). "Water of fire" is the Arabic name for that 1,250 solution of sulphuric acid in which the plates of one's battery are immersed, and on arrival home I topped up with 1,250 solution instead of the usual distilled water. All this happened nearly two months ago, and ever since my battery, having regained all the lost energy of its youth, is as vigorous as a new one.

I mention the episode because I obtain visual proof every day that approximately half the cars of the road are suffering from the same trouble, and though quite a number of motorists know that a run down battery can often be resuscitated by "water of fire," there are quite as many who do not know, and for some unexplained reason the average garage does not suggest the treatment. If think they prefer to sell a new battery, even if the customer has to wait three months for it.

WAR-TIME ADVENTURES OF BRITAIN'S ART TREASURES & By G. BERNARD WOOD

HE storage of the nation's art treasures during the war makes a remarkable story which is now being told as the need for official secrecy recedes. That so little was lost is a matter for justifiable pride, reflecting great credit on the several custodians and the Ministry of Works. Much ingenuity and resourcefulness were exercised and many were the strong-rooms and underground storage chambers constructed in remote parts of the country.

Koughly the story covers four stages. Some story story to the national art galleries and museums met to make provisional arrangements for the safe-keeping of their collections in case of war. Various church authorities, some rather belatedly, made their own plans. Consequently, at the time of the Munich crisis, some of the finest of our artistic treasures were afready being sent some-artistic treasures were afready being sent some-

air-conditioning plant was installed; alarm signals were provided, and steel doors closed upon the rock-chambers which were guarded by picked attendants.

The Tate Gallery collection was originally spread among three chosen sanctuaries—Mun-caster Castle, Ravenglass, Cumberland; Hellens, Much Marcle, Herefordshire; and Eastington Hall, Worcestershire, Later, pictures from the last two places were taken to Sudely Castle, Gloucestershire, and to Stow-on-the-Wold in the same county. All these houses were occupied as usual by their owners and the pictures were guarded day and night.

Some of the larger canvases, such as Copley's Death of Major Pierson and Stanley Spencer's Resurrection were walled-up where they hung in the Gallery, while most of the sculpture was relegated to strong-rooms in the basement. There were other valuable exhibits

FAMOUS PICTURES RETURNING TO THE TATE CALLERY FROM SUDELEY CASTLE, GLOUCESTERSHIRE. (Right) SARGENT'S CARNATION, LILY, LILY, ROSE. ON CASE: HARPIGNIE'S THE GARDEN

where in the country. Twelve months later, even while Mr. Neville Chamberlain was announcing that we were at war, other heirlooms by the van- and train-load were on their way to secret destinations. The fall of France marked a final stage; with the threat of invasion it was found that many of the treasures had been moved to vulnerable areas. They had to be evacuated to safer places.

By the outbreak of war the National Gallery had already dispersed 2,000 pictures, mainly in country houses and provincial centres, incloding the National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth, and the Pritchard Jónes Hall, University of Wales, Bangor. In 1941, the Treasury was asked to provide a safer repository, with the result that—as Sir Kenneth Clark has disclosed—the Manod Slate Quarry, near Blaenau Festiniog, North Wales, reputed to be the deepset slate quarries, or mines, in the world, were transformed into a series of strong-rooms. Within quarry chambers cut 300 feet deep into the mountaineide, the Ministry of Works constructed five brick galleries for the works of Titian, Rubens, El Greco, Michelangelo, etc., and Hogarth's series, The Rabe's Progress, from Scane's Museum. The pictures were taken into the quarry by specially-constructed light railway. To regulate temperature and humidity,

which never left London, for the Tate Gallery, housed a number of pictures in a disused section of the Underground railway system—the Piccadilly tube—sharing this with the London Museum: Westimister Abbey, which placed its wax effigies there; and the Royal Academy. The Tate Gallery's total loss was one picture only—Richard Wilson's Destruction of the Children of Niole, which was being cleaned in London.

Looking back it is curious to think, of all those studies from the National Portrait Gallery—Holbein's Henry VIII. Mary Queen of Scots, the Chandos Shakespeare, Sir Christopher Wren, Dr. Johnson and the rest—seeking sanctuary under the roof of Lord Rosebery's Buckinghamshire house of Mentmore, along with the royal efficies (ride Coursins Lire, November 2, 1943) and the statues of saints, apostles and philosophers from Westminster Abbey, for inspecting which—on their return to London—the recent exhibition at the Victoria and Albert Museum provided an unique opportunity. It is strange, also, to visualise Lord Hertford's treasures from the Wallace Collection—so many of which he bought from the French aristocracy who survived the Revolution—figuring again as meigres, at Hall Barn, Beaconsfield, and West Wycombe Park, Buckinghamshire

Some time may elapse before the British

Museum can disclose in detail the war-time adventures of its treasures, as so many of these, until transport difficulties lessen, will have to remain where they were put. It has been disclosed, however, that some of their exhibits were stored, with valuable china from the Victiva and Albert Museum and from Buckingham Palace, in another disussed portion of the London Tube, the Aldwych line.

Montacute House, Somerset, early became one of the repositories for the Victoria and Albert Museum, but the greater part of their collections went underground, later, in a lime stone quarry near Bradford-on-Avon, Wiltshire. Here were stored tapestries, textiles, and other tiens that, if left where fires might have occurred, might have suffered trreparable damage by water. In the Bath Stone area, therefore, were kept such famous treasures as the Ardabí carpet, the Constable paintings, the Gloucester candlestick, Queen Elizabeth's virginal—probably the very instrument on which she beguiled her courtiers and ambassadors, and the idea notebooks of Leonardo da Vinci.

Here again additional precautions were necessary. The air was mechanically sifted and cooled. Placed in the quarry at intervals were devices to indicate any change in humidity. Across the quarry chambers were directed rays which, if intercepted, would operate an alarm. Examination of the treasures by experts was conducted regularly.

Thousands of exhibits from the Victoria and Albert Museum were in circulation among provincial centres during the war, and this undoubtedly reduced the risk of damage from aerial attacks. There were, unfortunately, two exceptions—Sheffield and Bristol. A selection of Sheffield Plate Ioaned to Sheffield Art School was ruined during a raid; and a display of ceramics, including choice specimens of Bow and Chelsea ware and of eighteenth-century cut glass that went to Bristol, met a similar fate.

In Wales the public had several opportunities of viewing the masterpieces from the London collections. A selection of the armour from the Tower of London—including the armour of the Tudor sovereigns—was sent to the National Museum of Wales at Cardiff and placed on exhibition there. Henry VIII—the founder of the Armouries collection—was appropriately represented by the mounted figure wearing the engraved suit (it bears the initials of Henry and Katherine of Aragon interlaced with lovers' knots) presented to him by the Emperor Maximilian I (e. 1511-14). When Cardiff became vulnerable, at the Fall of France, this part of the Armouries collection was transferred to Carnarvon Castle, where it remained until the Summer of 1945. Other items from the collection spent the war years at Hall Barn, Beaconsfield, and West Wycombe Park, Buckinghamshire, with Balls Park, Hertfordshire, providing a temporary home.

Among the many items in London which had to be protected in situ were the Mantegnas at Hampton Court Palace; a number of public statues, including that of Charles II at Chelsea Hospital; and some of the massive sculptures in the British Museum. The furniture, marbles and a selection of the pictures from Soane's Museum went to Rhianva, Anglesey, where they were stored in the Tenants' Hall; while the architectural drawings and designs by Plaxman, Chantrey, Robert Adam and others found refuge in the cellar of Haigh Hall, Wigan.

The country house plan was adopted by the Public Record Office, too. Records were stored at Belvoir Castle, Leicestershire; Haddon Hall, Derbyshire; Clandon Park, Surrey; Grittleton House, Wittshire; Culham College, Oxfordshire—and the Casual Ward at Market Harborough, Leicestershire. Perhaps the most important storage place was a wing of the prison at Shepton Mallet, Somerset. This housed all those fascinating records from the Public Record Office Museum, ranging from Domesday Book



PANELS FROM THE TE DEUM WINDOW IN YORK MINSTER, SHOWING THE EFFECT OF THE RE-ARRANGEMENT OF THE GLASS. (Left) THE DIVINE ARCHITECT AFTER TREATMENT. (Right) THE TRINITY BEFORE TREATMENT

and the ancient royal seals, to bygone treaties with France, Spain, Portugal, etc. and letters such as that in which the Sultan of Turkey addresses Queen Elizabeth as "most sapient princess of the magnanimous followers of Jesus . . . most grateful rain-cloud," etc.

In all this mighty upheaval of the nation's records, involving the transfer of about 2,000 tons of documents, not one public record was damaged or lost through enemy action.

The altar plate designed by Professor Gleadowe and executed by the Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths found safe custody in the United States. Consisting of candicistics, vases, cross and alms dish, the plate was a gift from the present Royal Family to the King's Chapel of the Savoy—the Chapel of the Royal Victorian Order—and was being exhibited at the New York World Fair as § typical example of modern English craftsmanship. Bishop Manning, of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, New York, later accepted the custody of these ornaments for the duration of the war.

A selection of the Goldsmiths' Company's plate and that of other City companies also happened to be on exhibition and the companies also happened to be on exhibition with the companies are a work of the control of the companies are a work of the companies are a work of the companies are a work of the companies and the companies are a work of the companies and the companies are a work of the companies and the companies are a work of the companies and the companies are a work of the companies and the companies are a work of the companies and the companies are a work of the companies and the companies are a work of the companies and the companies are a work of the companies and the companies are a work of the companies and the companies and the companies are a work of the companies and the companies and the companies are a work of the companies and the companies and the companies are a work of the companies and the companies and the companies are a work of the companies and the companies and the companies are a work of the companies and the companies and the companies are a work of the companies and the companies are a work of the companies and the companies are a work of the companies and the companies are a work of the companies and the companies are a work of the companies and the companies are a work of the companies and the companies are a work of the companies and the companies are a work of the companies and the companies are a work of the companies and the companies are a work of the companies and the companies are a work of the companies and the companies are a work of the companies and the companies are a work of the companies are a work of the co

The Geological Museum's collection, incorporating about 150,000 fossils and 77,000 rocks representing a century of geological investigation in Great Britain—

was at first protected within the Kensington premises. In 1940-41, it was evacuated to Bangor, Carnarvonshire. The transfer occupied exactly four weeks. They are now safely back in Kensington, with not a single fragile specimen damaged—a remarkable achievement.

The removal of insects, fish, reptities and other specimens from the Natural History Museum was particularly exacting. They were dispersed among twenty country houses, chief of which were How Caple Court, Rosson-Wye, Herefordshire; Turville Park, Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire; Tattershall Castle, Lincolnshire: Swallowfield Park, Reading, Berkshire; Wray Castle, Ambleside, Westmorland; Aston Rowant House, Princes Risborough, Buckinghamshire; and Fort Rodborough, Stroud, Gloucestershire. The important type specimens, preserved in spirit, were stored at Godstone, within the Carthouse Quarry. Other caves in the neighbourhood were used for the atorage of a quantity of wine.

The storage of treasures from the Provinces makes an equally interesting story. Throughout the country there has been in the last six years an increasing public interest in works of art. Those museums and art galleries which remained open, despite the evacuation of some of their exhibits, all report greatly improved attendances.

The more important of the older pictures from the Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool—a collection of Italian works from the thirteenth to the sixteenth centurles forms the nucleus—were stored at three neighbouring houses: Knowsley Hall, Croxteth Hall, and, by arrangement with the National Trust, Rufford Old Hall, while a selection was lent to Ellesmere College, Shropshire, and hung in their hall. The modern pictures, including works by Wilson Steer, John Sargent and Algernon



HUMPHREY CHETHAM'S WAR-TIME NICHE IN MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL. THE STATUE IS BY W. THEED



ONE OF THE TOWER OF LONDON'S MODEL HORSES BEING RETURNED TO THE WHITE TOWER

Newton, were sorted into groups of about 30 each and circulated almost throughout the war among schools, where pupils could view them on their classroom walls. The schools which participated in this scheme were Rossall, Sedbergh, Giggleswick, Repton, Shrewsbury, Denstone, Merchant Taylors' (Crosby), Howells' (Denbigh), and Rydal (Comway).

Manchester Art Gallery operated a somewhat similar scheme with the same two-fold purpose of protecting its pictures and of showing them to what proved, in some instances, to be an entirely new public. Selections from different masters from the Rutherston Loan Collection were circulated among schools, factories, hostels and service camps in Lancashire and other parts of the north. The Museum and Art Gallery at Buxton, Derhyshire, held an exhibition of paintings and drawings by such modern artista as Augustus John, Wilson Steer, Sickert and Will Rothenstein, all from Manchester Art Gallery. The older works, including the Pre-Raphaelites for which Manchester is famoustogether with the ceramics, silver, jade, furniture and costumes—were stored away, some at the National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth: Others at Ford Hall and Bowden Hall, Derbyshire; Coniston Hall, West Yorkshire: Temple Sowerby Manor, Westmorland, and the ancestral home of the Percys, Alnwick Castle, Northumberland.

When the bombs began to fall on Manchester the John Kylands Library was holding an exhibition of medizeval MSS, and jewelled book-covers. It is one of the finest collections of its kind in the world. It was removed to country homes of friends of the library and now, six years later, the exhibition has been resumed, without a single blank space.

As Stratford upon Avon was not considered vulnerable, the specially-constructed record room adjoining Shakespeare's Birthplace, which had been officially opened by the late Master of the Rolls in 1937, gave war-time sanctuary to a great variety of items. Besides some of the

records of the Corporation of Coventry and of the Stratford-upon-Avon Town Council there were the archæological specimens and other relics from the Birth-place and New Place Museums, and some precious items from the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre. Trustees and Guardians of Shakespeare's Birthplace also gave protection to the Washington Irving clock and chair from the Red House Hotel, Stratford, while the chairman of the Trust, Sir Archibald Flower, kept the microfilms of the borough records in the cellar of his house, The Hill, Stratford.

Norwich was another place which kept its museums open, registering greatly-increased attendances despite the fact that the more valuable and spectucular items, such as the 15th-century Flemish tapestries, were safely stored in country houses, or in the dungeons of the Norman castle

which now serves as museum and art gallery.

. . .

Throughout the country the authorities responsible for the care of the treasures in church and cathedral were at pains to ensure their safety. In the City of London churches and St. Paul's Cathedral, the protection of large and intricate reredoses, stalls, pulpits, pews, screens, organs and galleries, as well as famous monuments, involved many difficulties. Dr. Fisher, then Bishop of London, set up a special committee to deal with these and other wartime measures. Safe storage for some of the items was provided in the crypt of St. Paul's and in certain of the church towers which were converted into strongrooms, but the larger fittings were taken to the country. Thirty-one lorry loads of the finest woodwork from the City

churches were sent to the wilds of Somerset. Fittings removed included:

Reredoses.—St. Magnus-the-Martyr, St. Mary Abchurch, St. Benet Paul's Wharf, St. Martin Ludgate, St. Michael Paternoster Royal. St. Mary Woolnoth.

Screens.—St. Peter Cornhill, St. Margaret Lothbury.

Pulpitis — St. Mary Abchurch, St. Benet Paul's Wharf, St. Edent Eastcheap, St. Clement Eastcheap, St. Edmund-the-King, St. Helen Bishonsgate St. James Garlickhythe, St. Magnus-the-Martyr, St. Martin Ludgate, St. Maryle-Bow, St. Michael Royal, St. Olave Hart Street, St. Stephen Walbrook, St. Mary Woolnoth, St. Andrew Undershaft.

Churchwardens' pews.—St.

Margaret Pattens, St.
Clement Eastcheap, St.
Magnus-the-Martyr.

Doorcases.—St. Helen Bishopsgate, St. Mary Abchurch, St. Benet Paul's Wharf.

Organs.—St. Katherine Cree, St. Andrew Undershaft.

bells were also removed; two from St. Bartholomewthe-Less of about 1510 and six from St. Andrew Undershaft of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Some of the other bells, notably those at St. Magnus-theMartyr, were lowered to floor level. The City is not rich in ancient glass but what there is was taken away, including the rose window of St. Katherine Cree and the west.



DOMESDAY BOOK, UNSCATHED AFTER ITS WAR-TIME EVACUATION

window of St. Andrew Undershaft, with small panels from other churches.

Protective work in St. Paul's was carried out by the Dean and Chapter, assisted by the Ministry of Works. Jean Tijou's wrought-tion grilles at the entrance to the choir aisles and Jesus chapel and his unique ironwork at the foot of the Geometrical staticrase were taken down and removed, together with the Grinling Gibbons carving from the choir; the famous model by Sir Christopher Wren; a large part of Jonathan Mayne's wood carving in the Library; and screens at the west end of the cathedral. Some of these tiems were stored in strong parts of the cathedral crypt, where special measures were taken to control humidity. Others were taken to control humidity. Others were taken to control humidity.

Among the cathedral monuments encased in protective brickwork were the tomb of Nelson; the memorial tablets to the Wren family and the Wellington monument. A number of buxts, statues and tablets was



HENRY VIII'S SUIT ENGRAVED ARMOUR WHICH WAS REMOVED FROM THE TOWER OF LONDON TO WALES

removed to safer places. The well-known effigy removed to sater places. In eveil-known effigy of a former Dean, Dr. Donne, which survived the fire of 1666, was transferred to the crypt where, during the desperate nights of 1940-41, it lay side-by-side with the present Dean when he was not doing fire-guard duty.

Forgotten chapters in ecclesiastical history have come to light through storage schemes devised by some of the provincial cathedrals At Lincoln cases containing the old glass, such as the Dean's Eye, the Bishop's Eye and some lovely lancet windows from transcots and Angel Choir, were stored in an underground chamber -part of some workings where, it is thought. Remigius might have obtained the stone for the cathedral he began 900 years ago. With 30 feet of solid rock overhead, the chamber was excavated from a passage found by accident some years before the war. It is ventilated naturally by air coming through the gaps in the stone beds. The discovery of several human skulls and two incomplete skulls of bison during the excavations opens a new field for local archæo-

logical investigation.

At Durham Cathedral similar treasures. together with the remarkable Cuthbert relics and accourrements found when the saint's tomb was opened in 1827, were relegated to a vaulted stone chamber which had long served only for lumber. Situated on the west side of the cloister, it is the treasure house of monastic times where not only the monks but noble families in the neighbourhood kept their valuables when raiders were abroad vestments, now known as the Horseman and Byzantine Textiles, in which Cuthbert's remains were robed, went, with items from the Victoria and Albert Museum, into the quarry near Bradford-on-Avon

Many other cathedrals turned part of their own buildings into safe deposits. At Gloucester own outlings into safe teposits. At colocester the crypt preserved the 14th-century east window, a memorial to the Gloucestershire men who fell at Crécy, and the Coronation Chair from Westminster Abbey. Norwich stored its Obedientiars (monastic rolls) and other documents in a blocked-up wall passage in the building, and the Maximilian Thronethat curious wooden chair inlaid with ivory made for the Emperor over 400 years ago—in the space over the reliquary arch, which is protected by a Norman vault above and a 13th-century vault beneath.

Most of the valuable glass at Bristol Cathedral, including the two windows reputed to have been presented by Nell Gwynne while she took the waters at Hotwells nearby, found refuge in neighbouring cellars. Five other treasures were deposited by the civic authorities in a disused railway tunnel.

Some of the magnificent canopy work on the 15th-century choir stalls at Manchester Cathedral was damaged in December, 1940. Later the stalls were encased in thin sheetarmour plate. William Theed's statue of Humphrey Chetham, founder of Chetham's Hospital, showing one of the charity boys at his feet, looked from within a maze of protective scaffolding.

The Central Council for the Care of Churches was instrumental in saving many church fittings. These were collected from St. Paul's, Southwark, Exeter, Salisbury, Portsmouth and Lichfield cathedrals, and from many parish churches, and stored in the West of England. The cellar of a farm-house on Exmoor was used for valuable church plate. A large quantity of ecclesiastical treasures in great variety was deposited in the huge, stone vaulted crypt of a church rebuilt just over a century ago. Conveniently, the crypt had been sub-divided for interments which never took place. According to Dr. F. C. Eeles, this building probably contained more valuables during the war than any other storage place of the kind.

No fewer than 80 windows were removed from York Minster and the opportunity is now being taken to restore, under the Dean's supervision, their original designs. At some earlier time several had been put back in such hap-hazard fashion—for example, the Te Deum window in the south transept -that the pictures resembled jig-saw puzzles.

One other treasure-house of York glass must be mentioned—All Saints' Church, North Street. After spending three years in the cellars of Thorganby Hall, in the East-Riding, these



FIGURES FROM WESTMINSTER ARREY. (Left) ST. MATTHEW, WITH ANGEL HOLDING INKPOT. (Right) ST. DUNSTAN CLUTCHING A DEMON

windows-remarkable alike for their quality and subjects—have now been replaced. One 14th-century window is especially famous. Conraining vividly-portrayed scenes based on Richard Rolle's Pricke of Conscience—the Yorkshire hermit's vision of the end of the world—it shows the overthrow of towns, with buildings crashing in ruin, fire spreading destruction everywhere and men hiding in holes. The subject is an apt commentary on our times. Yet the replacement of the window, unimpaired is a token of our deliverance.

GOOD SPORT WITH WINTER PIKE

By J. B. DROUGHT into a deep dark hole in no uncertain manner.

S & Winter entertainment take fishing has its seamy side. Trolling, for instance, on an inland lake, with the thermometer in the twenties, a boat half-filled with drifting snow, and a wind that would shave a polar bear churning the water to a creditable imitation of the open sea, is not everybody's pigeon. None the less and contrary to popular belief, a big lake pike in his Winter prime will usually put up a fight not far inferior to that of many a clean-run salmon.

One snares or even shoots pike in a trout stream from a sense of duty. In process, too, of spinning for them one keeps reasonably warm, Immobility is undoubtedly the crab to lake tishing under conditions more or less of Arctic nature. Yet I can recall many a January day which borrowed its mildness from the coming Spring. Then a tussle with one of the sockdolagers aforesaid has made a welcome change from the day-in, day-out footslog after snine

River pike are said to fight better than lake fish as a rule, but I do not think that this applies to the big fellows. There was a day not long since when we cruised on Corrib for an hour or so to the tune of two quite insignificant fish. The monotony, in fact, was becoming quite unbearable when, in a flash, things began to happen. Two trolling baits were snapped up almost simultaneously and not five minutes later my companion's spoon was dragged down

Luckily we were in the deep water; luckily, also, the boatman was old and learned in the ways of pike. For we did not so much as glimpse the fish until he had taken out forty yards of line and shot up on the port bow to take a look see at the battlefield. Then down he went like a stone, and like a stone stayed put. Nor did my partner dare to exert undue pressure, as some of the deepest places in the lake are rock-studded and a mass of tangled weeds. So the lead was in dummy's hand, so to speak, and it proved to be rather unexpected, for instead of a sullen, upward movement, the pike made another quick rush and appeared on the surface about twenty yards away in another direction.

One sight of the boat was enough and he was down again; but this time a firm hold and a continual pressure limited his activity. After a laborious fifteen minutes his energies seemed to be failing, and then my companion took a chance which, but for our henchman's skilful seamanship, might have proved fatal. For the big fish, tired as he undoubtedly was, had lost no whit of his low cunning and, allowing himself to be towed an appreciable distance alongside, was quite sprightly enough to play the favourite game of darting underneath the boat.

In a flash he made for it, and equally in a flash Tom, the boatman, got her from broadside to head on—with disastrous results to the equilibrium of the crew but, luckily, without any slackening of the line. That was the end of that adventure. He was not a leviathan, as such specimens are reckoned in celebrated piking haunts, but he turned the scale at 201/2 lb. and was in the best of condition. Involuntarily my thoughts reverted to those sceptics who say that a lough pike is always dull and sluggish, and can be hauled up like a sack of potatoes, for many a salmon has given me fewer palpitations of the

I would suggest that many people, unversed in the ways of the big fellows, use baits that are too small. One does better work with something sizeable, whether live or artificial, worked at a good depth. For the really big fish lie far down good depon. For the realty big man lie far down in the weedy recesses of the loughs and the best sport and weightiest prizes fall, in the long run, to the man who spins deep and slowly.

The best loughs for weighty specimens that I know are in Ireland. Conn, Corrib and Sheelin in Eire and Lough Erne in Ulster offer a pretty wide field of choice to the piker. At one time or another I have sampled all of them, but although the three first mentioned share the honours for outsize fish, I would give the palm to Lough in fooey, on the Mayo-Connemara border, as the best of Irish waters. It is, or was, stiff with pike, and is less frequented than the larger lakes. Although they do not attain to quite the aldermanic proportions of the Corrib fish, in the many years I fished Nafooey from Leenane I never found them unresponsive to any kind of lure.

OLD ENGLISH CUT GLASS-I

By G. BERNARD HUGHES



DETAILS OF MAYDWELL AND WINDLE'S TRADE-CARD IN SIR AMBROSE HEAL'S COLLECTION

(Left) An 18th-century manually-operated glasscutting machine, the cutter holding the blank between himself and the edge of the rapidly revolving wheel

(Right) A Georgian grinding machine with which the flat side of the revolving stone was used to grind flat surfaces upon flint glass

UT glass fascinates connoisseur and tyro alike. It scintillates, sparkles, gleams and glistens with the seven changing every moment as the light plays in the depths of the facets or dances upon a raised point. In 18th-century homes flickering candleight displayed cut facets and formal devices cut

in relief to their finest advantage.

The decoration of glass by cutting designs upon its surface to enhance brilliance and reflective power is at least 1,800 years old in this country. Remains of a glass furnace erected during the Roman occupation of Britain have been excavated at Warrington revealing a small stone cutting wheel and fragments of glass cut with circular concave hollows—the same "printie" so successfully revived in Ireland during the early nincteenth century.

The century-long revival and redeveloping the control of the con was made gay with large lustres of rock crystal." During 1725 more than thirty glass grinders were mentioned by name as belonging to the Society for the Art of Glass Grinding.

Scalloping or edge-cutting on rims was perhaps the earliest "grinding" to decorate English table glass. First came the arch and triangle some time before 1715, followed by zig-zag rims and regular undulating rims during the early 1720s. There were also several types of foot-rim scalloping, the earliest being arcs. Early scalloping was blunt rather than sharp, the edges being pared off at the sides. Scalloping became more artistically developed after 1745 and was eventually superseded about 1765 by castellated rims in various designs. These in turn were replaced about 1805 by the famous necten-shell or, fan edge.

Not until an incision is made in the glass can it be termed "cut." Cutting proper, an entirely different technique from grinding, requiring considerable skill and accuracy, had a wide vogue on the Continent long before the craft was established in England as an independent art. The carliest record of cut filmt glass was unearthed by Buckley from The Whitehall Post, which during 1719 announced that "John Akerman continues to sell plain and diamond-cut filmt glasses." This wording does not suggest that diamond-cutting was a new fashion: the small German facet was probably copied in London as early as 1710 by enterprising grinders who secured patterns from a sale of imported "German cut and carved glasses" at Stationers' Hall in October. 1709.

Glass-cutting gradually developed during

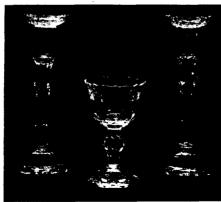


the reigns of the first two Georges into a highly specialised craft, glass-makers supplying plain ware to the retailers, who themselves employed the cutters, probably pupils of the Bohemian group which accompanied the Hanoverian court to London.

Since English fiint glass was heavier and less liable to fracture than Continental sodal glass, cutting was found to be the ideal medium for enhancing its plain, sturdy forms. The large lead content of the metal made for brilliancy, a merit exploited to the full, with motifs becoming more elaborate as the century advanced. Metal, being inexpensive, was lavishly used: during 1710 the Whitefriars Glass-house was selling flint glass table ware at an all-round price of one shilling a pound.

English cut glass was developed through three distinct phases. To the pre-I745 group belong those geometric patterns called sliced cutting with motifs nearly or almost flat: this was a period of slow, steady progress. To the second group, I745-80, belongs that flat; incised cutting in which designs were formed by angled slices: this was an era during which beauty of form and simplicity of ornament almost completely harmonised. Metal was thinner, clearer, whiter than formerly, but still displayed the greyish tinge of lead. The slightly deeper cutting had rather more prismatic fire, particularly after 1770, when tentative experiments were made with simple motifs in relief cutting. This relief cutting, greatly elaborated on a thicker metal, held the field from 1780 to 1825. This was the third period in glass-cutting during which beauty of line gave place to garsh dis-







SWEETMEAT GLASS WITH ARCH AND TRIANGLE SCALLOPED RIM. An example of the earliest grinding on table-glass. About 1720. (Mrs. W. Hopley). (Middle) GLASS CANDLESTICKS WITH FACETED DOUBLE-KNOPPED STEMS. The loose sconcess and domed feet are sliced and scalloped; flat diamond cutting on the sockets. About 1745. Dessert-glass which@on being reversed, becomes a candiestick. About 1735. (Right) WINEGLASS WITH FACET-CUT STEM ON A PLAIN FOOT. About 1750.

ENGRAVED WINE-WITH GLASS KNOPPED FACETED STEM AND PLAIN FOOT, AND ALE GLASS WITH TALL STRAIGHT-SIDED BOWL ENGRAVED WITH HOP AND BAR-LEY AND DIAMOND FACETED STEM About 1760. Victoria and Albert Museum (Right) CUT-GLASS SWEETMEATS. Scalloped rim and double ogee bowl cut with large hollow diamonds. About 1760. And scalloped rim and bucketshaped bowl decorated with sliced cutting, 1775





plays of cutting as metal became fully cleared. The gradual development of glass-cutting was traced by Francis Buckley on cruet bettles. These can be dated fairly accurately by shape, character of metal and style of mounting, particularly when the latter is of silver authenticated by a hall mark. Three types of English table-glass were usually cut: bottle forms, bowls, and stems.



CUT-GLASS TUN HARNESSED WITH FOUR SILVER BANDS AND SUP-PORTED ON A SILVER TRIPOD WITH HOOF-SHAPED FEET. 1749 In the collection of the Worshipful Company of Vintners

Scalloping had appeared on sweetmeat glasses rather earlier than 1715, when it attracted the attention of Lady Grisell Baillie during one of her frequent visits to London. Small German facets cut on drinking-glass stems during the same decade marked the birth of a new indus-trial art in England. The basic operations of slicing and faceting were neither laborious nor difficult, but great artistic skill was necessary to produce attractive designs solely from shapely produce attractive designs solery from snapery scoops of various depths and outlines ground by the cutting wheel. The rounded edges of these scoops or slices are always seen on cut glass of the early period. Sharp points at the inter-section of slicings were prevented by the insertion of heart-shaped "snicks." Neither slicing nor faceting, flat and subtle as they are, impairs the transparency of the metal: rather do they add a liquid beauty to the material, unknown in the deep and complicated cutting of the third period. As one looks through a facet-decorated glass, the cutting on the opposite side is reflected in the facets on the near side and the whole surface seems to be covered with a delightfully complicated pattern. The object of the cutter's art at this time was to beautify the glass by small, sparse decoration rather than to display the intricacies of their art. Shicing was, therefore, simple and unostentations.

Cut glass made before 1745 had a brilliant, rather deeply-hued metal—brown or green tinted. Owing to its great lead content and the style of cutting, prismatic light is not so intense as in later work. Striations appear in the metal together with specks and small bubbles.

Table-glass belonging to the slicing and faceting period can be recognised by its form: large funnel bowls supported by heavy knopped stems, double-ogee sweetmeat bowls, domed feet and many other early features.

Cut motifs of the first period are found in the following principal styles. The earliest motifs, dating from about 1715, include flat or slightly concave slicing, occasionally cut at a very slight angle to the surface; the small German or "hollow diamond cut" facets on

knopped stems; triangular facets on bowls and other large areas; long hexagon and diamond facets on stems; large flat four-sided diamond facets on bowls; flat vertical flutes on Silesian stems with ribbed feet; vertical rounded flutes on bowls; various types of polygon and scale cutting on feet. Upright fluting first appeared about 1730. These early flutes were long and shallow: as the century advanced they became deeper.

smaller and sharper.
Following the accession of George
II in 1727 several other sliced and
incised motifs became fashionable on
bowls: after 1735 slicing was more
ambitious and flat cutting adapted to
hollow parts started its half-century
vogue. Rowls were decorated with one
or two zig-zag circuits, the angles
sometimes being capped; lunar slicing
composing various motifs or forming
a zig-zag motif around bowls: simple
festoons with leaves so soft to the
touch as to feel almost like moulding.

These were the main cut motifs until 1745, the English source from which all Irish cutting was then derived.

The Excise Act of 1745 placed a duty of 8s. 4d. a hundred-weight on all raw materials used in the manufacture of fint glass. This compelled table-glass manufacturers to economise in weight of material. Forus became shorter, less sturdy and thinner of body, thus impeding progress in the glass-cutter's art. Flat motifs, soft and shallow and showing economy of line, now began to be used almost exclusively: the this sides of bowls

would no longer permit of deep slicing.

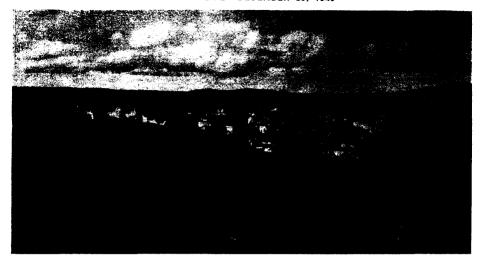
Buckley records about a dozen types of cutting common during the years between 1748 and 1780. These include large flat diamonds on bowls; scale patterns chiefly on bottle-necks and candlestick stems; arch and sprig on the bases of wineglass bowls; neck-flutting; comb fluting; stem fluting; sometimes with the edges notched; stem fluting sometimes with the edges notched; size and either flat or concave, resembling parallelograms with angles approximating 120 degrees and 60 degrees; double or long diamonds, often called lozenges, and sometimes hooked. There were also several kinds of polygon facets including long heveral kinds of polygon facets and liner of candlestick and sowetmeat feet. Scalloping in many designs appeared on nozzles and feet. Diamonds in the relief made their appearance about 1760 on fashionable luxury articles.

(To be concluded.)



SHOULDERED DECANTER WITH BODY AND NECK COVERED WITH LARGE DIAMOND FACETING. About 1760

(Right) JACOBITE DECANTER AND STOPPER. Base cut with a double row of flat facets, neck with ringed facet cutting. Engraved with roses and Jacob's ladder. About 1770



1.-THE WHITCLIFF

The Common across the River Teme given to the Burgesses of Ludlow by a rich merchant in about 1210

LUDLOW, SHROPSHIRE-II



2.—IN HIGH STREET Beyond is the Butter Cross

SOME TIMBER HOUSES

The mediaval town that had grown rich on Welsh wool became in Elizabethan and Jacobean times a busy administrative capital as the seat of the Council of the Marches

By CHRISTOPHER HUSSEY

UDLOW still reveals very clearly the peculiar position it occupied among English towns in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, when it was the administrative capital of the Principality of Wales. As the usual seat of the Council of the Marches of Wales, of which Ludlow Castle was the headquarters, it was, from before 1500 till the Civil War, in the nature of the Federal Capital of a British Dominion to-day, a miniature Delhi or Ottawa. The Lord President of the Marches held a position under the Crown analogous to a Governor-General, with judicial courts and officers under him, and kept semi-royal state at the Castle in the absence of the Prince of Wales himself. The Council had alternative quarters at Tickenhill (Bewdley) and Thornbury Castle, Gloucestershire. But Ludlow was its normal seat.

In the heyday of this administrative system the link between the Prince, Council, and Principality was intended to be real. That it was not more so was due to the accident that, during most of the period, there was no Prince of Wales. Edward IV, who instituted the Council in 1473, sent his children to Ludlow with their mother, where they had their home till the little Prince succeeded as Edward V and was removed by Uncle Richard to the Tower of London. Prince Arthur, eldest son of Henry VII, spent much of his short life in the Marches from 1493, and died at Ludlow in 1502. His brother, as soon as he had a child of an age to send, in 1525 deputed little Princess Mary (she was only 10) to keep Court at Ludlow, which she very prettily did for 18 months. Of the Stuart princes neither Henry nor his brother Charles carried on the tradition of holding their Court in their titular capital, jhough the latter's creation as Prince of Wales in 1616 was celebrated with great state at Ludlow. Thus, as Defo recognised when he visited the visited the







4.—THE TOWN PREACHER'S HOUSE, OLD STREET

town early in the next century, "the Castle of Ludlow is the Palace of the Princes of Wales, annexed to the Principality which is the Appanage of the Heir Apparent, and this is his Palace in right of his being made Prince of Wales." He added that "the town is a tolerable place, but it decays with the rest. It was formerly a town of good trade.

This reminder of Ludlow's former commercial note should be borne in mind in visualising its administrative importance in Tudor and early Stuart times and its renaissance as a social centre for the country gentry of the Marches in the eighteenth century, to which is due the wealth of good Georgian architecture created after Defoe's visit. Ludlow Races are a survival of this last phase which endured into the nineteenth century. The town's commercial phase was the earliest, derived from its development by the Lacy lords of the Castle as an entrepôt for the wool trade of North Wales, and thus forms the substance of its mediaval history.

Each of these three well-marked periods of prosperity has contributed something to the rich sequence of its architecture-a sequence more perfectly preserved than in any other English town. Of the first, 1100-1500, there are few domestic remains, but the spacious street lay-out, parts of the town wall and one of the seven gates, Broad Gate, survive of this epoch which is superbly represented in the great church of St. Lawrence, and in the communal buildings of the Town Hall and hall of the Palmers' Guild. In the second, Ludlow was notorious for the number of its inns and its lawyers, and characterised by the splendour and (according to Richard Baxter) licentiousness due to the presence of the Council. Baxter describes how being at Ludlow Castle, where many idle gentlemen had little else to do, I had a mind to learn to play at tables. . . . The house was great (there being four judges, the king's attorney, the secretary, the clerk of the fines, with all their servants and all the lord president's servants, and many more); and the town was full of temptations through the multitude of persons, and much given to tippling and excess." It was this period that produced the timber-framed buildings in which the town is so rich. In the third, social, phase (1700-1850) Ludlow had a "season" for which county families had each their town house, accounting for the Assembly Rooms and the rows of dignified Georgian houses lining the lower part of Broad Street and Mill Street and in Dinham below the

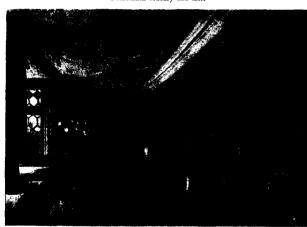
Castle; houses of which Henry James said that they "look as if there had been more going on in them in the first decade of the century but which can still, nevertheless, hold up their heads and keep their window panes clean and their knockers brilliant.



5.-THE FEATHERS HOTEL, CORVE STREET. 1603



6.—CASTLE LODGE, IN CASTLE SQUARE Fourteenth century and later



7.--FEATHERS HOTEL, FIRST-FLOOR ROOM



8.-OVERMANTEL IN THE FEATHERS HOTEL. c. 1603

The initiative displayed by the early lords of Ludlow Castle in developing and laying out the town on spacious lines, as described in the previous article, was of course prompted by enlightened self-interest. The earliest organisation seems to have consisted in a Provost and twelve jurors, mentioned in 1221, shortly after which a beginning was made with walling the town. In 1240 it is first referred to as a Borough, though when Jordan of Ludford, about 1210, gave the Whitcliff Common (Fig. 1) to the town, the grant was to the Burgesses. A fair was being held before 1274. The dues on all merchandise entering a town were a valuable source of income to the lord of a manor, and in a country in which the main products were wool and the smelting of iron, the presence of a thriving community of burgesses and artisans at the gates of one of his principal castles was a valuable asset. Before the end of the twelfth century Ludlow is found mentioned with Shrewsbury, Winchester, Lincoln. Andover and Grantham as a town where upcountry wool-dealers were active. There were already wealthy burgesses: Jordan of Lud-ford, just mentioned, and Peter Undergod, who c. 1220 founded the Hospital of St. John by Ludford Bridge.

The richest wool magnate in England of the thirteenth century was Laurence of Ludlow, though the firm of which he was a member, founded by his father Nicholas of Ludlow, was actually centred at Shrewsbury. Nicholas, "probably the most famous English merchant of the day," had claims against the Count of Flanders in 1274 amounting to £1,800, and it was Laurence who, twenty years later, largely managed the forced loan in wool from which Edward I financed his Scottish campaigns. In 1290 he began to enlarge and obtained licence to crenellate the manor house of Stokesay near his family's native town, just outside which he also founded a Carmelite convent. He was, however, highly unpopular with the wool-growers—the territorial aristocracy and monasteries—for his part in the taxation of their products, so that the chronicler of Dunstable Priory (which farmed the local Chiltern sheep) recorded with relish: because he sinned against the wool mongers he was drowned in a ship laden with wool."

The building that most nearly preserves the aspect of such a rich man's town house in this early period is Castle Lodge (Fig. 6) at the junction of Mill Street and the market place in front of the Castle. Its stone walls have been much altered, and a timber-framed upper storey been superimposed probably in the sixteenth century. But its blocked 14th-century entrance remains.

Already in Elizabethan times Camden could describe the aown as of more beauty than antiquity. The flourishing community in the seventeenth century produced its own poet, Thomas Churchyard, besides witnessing the first performance of Comus in the Great Hall of the Castle. The humbler native bard thus describes Ludlow in his time:

The towne doth stand most part upon a hill Built well and fayre, with streates both longe

and wide:
The houses such, where straungers lodge at will,
As long as there the counsell lists abide.
Both fine and cleane the streates are all throughout

With conduits cleere and wholesome water springs;

And who that lists to walk the towne about

Shall find therein some rare and pleasant things.
The virtual reconstruction of the town in Elizabethan and Jacobean times, while preserving the spacious mediæval lay-out except in one instance, was almost wholly in timber framing. Much of the early town must have been destroyed when it was attacked by the Lancastrians in 1459. None

survives of the importance of the 15thcentury timber buildings at Shrewsbury. On the other hand, in number and picturesque quality, few towns can surpass Ludlow in timber bouses of the seventeenth century.

The exception to the retention of the original broad street-plan was in the High Street or Market, running east and west along the top of the hill to the Castle gate. Here evidently the stalls and pitches became consolidated and permanent buildings grew up on them, forming narrow alleys (Fig. 11). One or two of those facing outwards from these rows are important houses, such as that in Fig. 2, of which the main beams are richly carved. The delightful semicircular bay window appears to be contemporary although the sash windows are later.

The Ludlow carpenters were colleagues of John Abel, carpenter of the town halls of Hereford (c. 1620) and Leominster (c. 1630). whose work theirs approaches in magnifi-Feathers Hotel (Fig. 5) is dated 1603 and is said to have been built for a Lord Justice of the Court of the Marches, though the initials R. I. on the lock-plate of the door supports a tradition that one Jones was its builder. while the arms of Foxe and Hackeluit in one of the rooms are those of two ancient families of the district. On the first floor the principal room has a rich ceiling of the period (Fig. 7) and a very fine carved overmantel with marquetry panels, the arms and initials of James I, and the badges of the Prince of Wales (Fig. 8), the arms retaining their original paint. The exterior, with its bays, overhangs, and panelling, is related to the carpentry of Cheshire. The treatment of the gables, with their blind arches and the quadrant construction of that of the projecting bay (on the left) is reminiscent of Little Moreton and Broughton Hall,

The group of timber houses in the Bull Ring (Fig. 12) are relatively straight forward, though one of them attains four storeys; a charming smaller house in Dinham is notable for its surface carving. In Old Street, the Town Preacher's House (Fig. 4) is dated 1611, and the picturesque Lane's



9.-TIMBERED HOUSES IN DINHAM

Charity, founded in 1674, is an Elizabethan building. In both these, the elements of the pattern elaborated in The Feathers are noticeable—the dormers emphasised into gables and accentuated with ornament. Some of the best timber-work is in the Reader's House, to be described later.

But these illustrations bring together most of the outstanding timber structures. When the whole town consisted of such houses the effect must have been more quaint than pleasing. But when set off by the plain classic proportions of the Georgian fronts adjoining, for example the admirable façade of the wine merchant in Fig. 12, the "busyness" of the timbering enriches without disturbing the street picture.

Several other old hostelries survive besides The Feathers, e.g. the Rose and Crown

(Fig. 10) and the Bull, opposite the Feathers. But the latter, as also the Angel in Broad Street, have not been so fortunate in their treatment. There is still scope for a certain amount of careful reconditioning of these timber-framed buildings. But the stripping of plaster casing and emphasising the black and white patterns should be resorted to with restraint. It would be easy, in that way, to make Ludlow look self-consciously "olde" and so to upset the perfect balance of mediæval, Jacobean, and Georgian architecture which is the town's outstanding beauty. The balance is as much due to the concealment of timber structures in many cases beneath colour-washed plaster as to the excellent quality of adjoining Georgian buildings, some of which will be illustrated on another occasion.



10.—YARD OF THE ROSE AND CROWN, ANOTHER OF LUDLOWS' OLD INNS



11.—HARP LANE, A MEDIÆVAL ALLEY



12.—JACOBEAN AND GEORGIAN IN THE BULL RING

MONOGRAPH OF THE WILD GEESE

THETHER it is their large size or their extraordinary wariness, or the it is a combination of all these things. there is sommination of all these things, there is something about wild geese that is infinitely romantic and exciting. It is probable that a larger number of people are interested in waterfowl than in any other comparable group of birds. Of those the most enthusiastic are usually the ones who hold wild geese to be the noblest birds that fly. It is rather strange, therefore, that no complete book on the world's wild geese has ever been published.

For some years before the war began I had been collecting material for such a work—a four-volume monograph, The Wild Geese of the World with a companion book, The Wild Swans of the World to follow it. Now that the war is over it seems that the time has come to pick up the threads of that work and bring the

project to fruition.

My friend James Moffitt of San Francisco, one of the greatest authorities on wild geese in the United States, was killed while serving in the United States Navy. Besides the loss to science and the personal loss of a close friend it is a serious setback to the whole monograph project, in which he had agreed to collaborate.

Although I have not yet found anyone to take his place in the American field. Dr. John Berry and R. A. H. Coombes have undertaken to assist in compiling the material here in England and of course the co-operation of two such wellknown anserologists (if I may coin the word) will be invaluable

At present the most notable book on the world's waterfowl is a monograph A Natural History of the Ducks by an American ornithologist, the late John C. Phillips, completed in 1926. Thus, when my five volumes on the geese and swans are finished, a detailed natural history of the whole of the sub-order Anseres will be available.

The Wild Geese of Europe and Asia by Sergius Alphéraky (translated from the Russian Wild Geese of Russia), appeared in 1905 but many of the conclusions are now out of date and in any case less than half the world's species of geese are dealt with. It seems therefore that there is a requirement for a comprehensive book, a requirement which it is my object to meet.

Let me outline this project in greater detail. As may well be imagined, a great deal of pre-liminary research is necessary before the writing can be started and it may be some years—two at least—before even the first volume can be published. Whether it will be possible to produce the book all at once, or whether it will have to come out volume by volume, at intervals, has not yet been decided.

The volumes will be crown quarto in size and the book will be planned on a lavish scale, for it is not intended to do more than pay for itself. It will be profusely illustrated, each volume containing some 30 plates in colour including close-up portraits of the various species, pictures of them on the wing in their typical environment, and comparative plates of bills, and of the young in down, Each volume will also contain some 200-300 photographs, including, I hope, the best that have been taken of geese and swans by outstanding bird photo-graphers all over the world. Finally, there will be in the text large numbers of line drawings both of a scientific and a decorative nature.

A chapter will be devoted to each species and the material will be set forth under the

following headings :-1 English name

2. Latin name—Synonymy (other Latin names).

Vernacular names. Foreign names. 4. History of species (when first recognised,

etc.). Relationship and allied forms.

(Probable line of evolution, etc.)

5. Distribution. Status—(probable approximate number in existence and whether increasing or decreasing. An estimated census of the number of individuals of each species will require a great deal of research and might be undertaken by certain ornithological organisations).— Breeding range.—Winter range.—Migration routes.—Records of stragglers.—In addition distribution maps for each sub-species will be included.

 Description —Adult Male — Adult Female. —
 Nestling. — Juvenile. — Bill. — Legs. — Ceroma-Irides.—Dimensions.—Weight.— Anatomy (Trachea, etc.).—General shape.

Field characters (identification in the field). 8. General habits---Habitat (Winter

Summer) — Wariness, Intelligence, etc.
—Daily movements—Gait—Swimming
—Diving — Flight — Enemies — Association with other species.

(As well as verbal descriptions of the call notes it may be possible to include a gramophone record in a pocket at the end of each volume, or in an additional volume illustrating the difference between the voices of the various species and sub-species.)

10. Food-Damage to crops, etc.-Evidence in

droppings.

11. Courtship.

12. Breeding.—Nesting season—Nest.—F.ggs.—
Incubation—Fledging.

Moults—Flightlessness.

14. Parasites.

15. Albinos and Varieties.

- 16. Hybrids. (Any authenticated records, with description of resulting birds and details of fertility.)
- 17. Behaviour in captivity—Breeding records.
 —Length of Life,—Tameness.—Food.
 Any other details of avicultural interest.
- 18. The Chase—Wildfowling—Capture in nets,

19. Culinary value-Recipes,

20. Quotation. (Entertaining or interesting passages in literature which refer to the species.)

There will be a number of subjects applicable to all geese—such as palæontology, psychology, classification, etc., which will be dealt with separately in an introduction. The division of the book into volumes depends on the classification to be used and this is a subject upon which systematists seem to differ more often than they agree. To me, it seems of no very great significance whether one bird is accepted as specifically or only sub-specifically distinct from another, provided that the underlying truth of how different the two may be from each other should be known and recorded. The artificial line which decides whether they should have two of their Latin names in common, or only one, is then a matter of convenience and almost of personal

As so much work remains to be done it is likely that much more evidence will come to light which bears upon the number of recognised

geographical races and how they should be classified, and also on the affinities of birds which have hitherto been regarded as generically distinct, such as the emperor goose of Alaska, the swan goose of China, the bar-headed goose of India and the ne-ne of Hawaii.

The work of compiling the book will be largely that of an editor and will require a great deal of co-operation from naturalists and sportsmen all over the world if it is to be, as I plan it to be, not only the last word on its subject but also the last word in monographs. Copious data of many kinds will be required, which may fall under the headings described above, or under some heading which has been overlooked. Good quality photographs of wild geese or swans (preferably not smaller than 10 ins. by 8 ins. and on glossy paper for best results in reproduction) will be most welcome. Indeed, this might well be regarded as a challenge to enthusiastic goose addicts in this country. Under the blue skies of California and Louisiana many remarkable photographs of the North American geese have been taken-and snow geese in particular, being white, photograph exceptionally well.

I have not been able to find any

photographs of European gee: e in the wild state which begin to compare with those taken in the United States, and yet I feel confident that opportunities do occur-indeed, it seems more than possible that admirable pictures al-



WHITE-FRONTS IN A RED SKY

Lieut. Commander Peter Scott, whose fine studies of wildfowl are well known from his two books Wild Flight and Morning Chorus, both published by COUNTRY LIFE, has just concluded a highly successful exhibition of his work at Ackermann's, Old Bond Street, W.1. This picture and those on the following page were shown there



PINK-FEET IN THE GREEN MARSHES

ready exist and that I have not yet been fortunate enough to find them. Among the 2,000 photographs which I have so far collected our own British geese (and swans) are very poorly represented. But, as I have said, it will be two years at least before even the first volume of the book goes to press, so it is to be hoped that that unfortunate state of affairs may by then have been remedied. Well over 1,000 photographs will, I hope, he included in the whole work.

Before the war, at my lighthouse on the Wash, I had collected a large flock of tame wild

PROSPICE

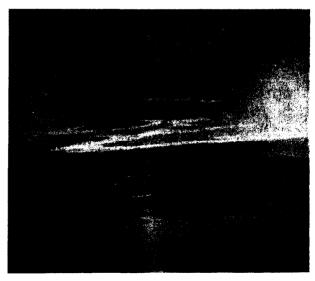
WHERE the hills of morning stand,
Where the winds of morning blow.
There ites the land.
The land that I would know.
On alien earth I stand,
Beneath the cold, blue dome;
I shall come to that land
As a lost man finds his home.
FIFTHE ASHTON EDWARDS.

geese which included all but one (the ne-ne or Hawaiian goose) of the species of true geese and most of the southern hemisphere ones as well. Such a project as this mongraph thrives only in a suitable atmosphere and if it is to be continued I think an "anserine" atmosphere must once again be created. Alas, only a few old birds remain of the 400 which were living at the lighthouse in 1939, so the collection must be started again almost from the beginning: and it may well be that the lighthouse is not the best place in which to start.

This restarting will mean trying to find hand-reared birds among what remains of the many fine collections in England before the war, capturing wild birds and importing birds from abroad as soon as shipping space permits. This, too, will require the co-operation of those who may be interested in the main project, for it is from the birds' behaviour in captivity that many details of little-known species often come to light—particularly such things as the

mating displays, incubation periods and moults, Such, then, is an outline of this proposed new book, which will be published in England by COUNTRY LIFE, 2-10. Tavistock Street.

London. It is my object that, when completed, it should delight not only the scientific ornithologist and the wildfowler, but also the artist and the lover of fine books.



BRENT GEESE ALONG THE OPEN SHORE

TEAM COLLECTING - A Golf Commentary by BERNARD DARWIN

HERE is an old friend of mine as to whom a story is told that, I must hasten to say, cannot be true. Still, as it is rather a pleasant one and comes put to my purpose I will tell it with the utmost caution. He had, so some base slanderers allege, undertaken in an exuberant moment to bring down a team to play on a certain course. It was to be a wonderful team, sparking with celebrated players, and his hosts were much impressed; they ransacked the countryside for miles around to produce a side of ten that should be worthy of the distinguished guests. The home side were all collected on the eve of the match when there came a telegram from the visiting captain couched in these words: "Arriving eight short."

That defamatory story has just come back into my head because I myself have once more promised to collect a side. For many years it was my pleasant task to take the Society side to play against Cambridge at Worlington in the Lent term. The last time I performed it was in March, 1939, and now after seven blank years I am hoping to do it again next term, to be precise on March 9, with myself, alas I in the dignified but too otiose capacity of "non-playing captain." It makes me feel quite strange and anxious, though I have no fears (touching wood) of arriving eight short. My fear rather is that more people will want to play than can possibly be accommodated, since University golf is still in rather an embryonic stage and cannot produce so big a side as it used to do.

Nevertheless there are inevitable anxicies in team-collecting, as everyone knows who has ever tried it. Till his whole side is present and correct on the ground the captain knows no peace of mind, if only because all matches, worthy of the name, include at least one round of foursomes and foursomes demand even numbers. One single player who gets influenza at the last moment can sadly upset the best-laid plans. I cannot lay my hand on my heart and declare that I have never arrived one short and had to beg for a substitute. I certainly did so once because I remember that the substitute given me was Mr. Leonard Crawley, then in the early stages of his golfing career. With a prophetic institut I chose him as my partner; he hit the ball metaphorically hundreds of miles and we won our match.

. . .

There is at any rate one small mercy for which the gatherer of a golf side ought to be thankful. It is one that may be indicated by the name of one of the Sherlock Holmes stories, The Missing There-quarter. All he has to produce is a certain number of players more or less capable of hitting the ball, not so many drivers or iron players or putters. I have never, to the best of my knowledge, collected a cricket eleven, but it must be a terrible thing to realise on a sudden that one has a large number of batsmen but no single man on the side capable of getting the other side out and no one who can even by courtesy be called a wicket-keep. Football must be at least, as exacting. In a golf side the only problem once the players are there is to blend them to the best advantage as foursome partners, and that with a team of friends ought not to be prostrating.

When on that point I cannot refrain from remarking, even if a little irrelevantly, that a great deal of nonsense has been talked and written about captaincy in golf. Doubtless there are good and bad captains and the good ones have the power of keeping their side in the best of humours, of encouraging them and getting the best out of them; but is not that really about all? They cannot win a match by some stroke of inspiration or even of good fortune in putting the right bowler on at the right moment or by laying traps for the opponent's weaknesses. Neither can they lose one by the missing of some heaven-sent opportunity. In short they have in chance of Machiavellian cunning. When Hagen was captain of the American Ryder Cup side it used to be instinuted that in a never very clearly defined

manner he would get the better of some poor innocent British captain on the other side. This meant easy writing of a dramatic and "intriguing" character but, in my belief, it was largely rubbish. Hagen was a very shrewd man, as capable as anyone of arranging his team in the most profitable order, possibly in making a good guess at the other side's order. More than that he could not do, nor can anyone else.

There are no doubt pitfalls, of a very obvious character, to be avoided. One Cambridge captain of years ago, filled up his team save for one vacant place and then set two poor wretches to play off for it. They played and they played and they played and they played and till they could hardly tell whether they were on their heads or their heads. Then at the eleventh hour the captain gave it up as a bad job, put both of them into whom he had already given his place.

When I was at Cambridge, in still more remote ages, there was a regular futual every year as regards that last place in the side; the chosen two lunched solemnly, of all grim sports at Coldham Common, with the captain and the secretary, and were then led out, like scarificial victims, to play a foursome. The one who played least badly got the place. My only claim to good captainey is that when I held office I refused to be a party to any such cruel fatuity and made up my own mind, very likely wrong but as well as I could. Fortunately I shall be confronted with no such agonising problems on March 9.

The worst that can happen to me is that somebody should be false at the last moment and that I should have to play the part of "A. N. Other." Many years ago, when Golf had not yet become Golf Hussrade and appeared weekly in a red cover, it recorded an achievement which in the nature of things could never be beaten. A gentleman, whose name I have charitably forgotten, had played in a team match and finished eighteen down. He took the mild amount of publicity that greeted him very much to heart and wrote to explain that he had only played as a substitute to fill a vacant place, that he had not got his own clubs, and that he had but recently recovered from a bad attack of influenza. Nothing quite so terrible can happen to me, since that was in the brutal old days of scoring by holes and to-day the most infamous can only lose his side a single point.

What I hope to do, if only the weather be reasonably clement, is to take up my position among the fir trees at the back of the fifth hole and mock at those bending every nerve and sinew first to get on to that slippery hog's-back green and secondly to lay their putts even moderately dead when they do. That will test them, and I, like Mr. Mantalini, shall "laugh demnably."

Meanwhile I have made a beginning. Even s I was writing this article a friend telephoned to me on another subject and I at once secured him for my side. Until then it consisted of two and now it is three, with two supernumeraries or camp-followers. I am coming to have a high opinion of my organising abilities.

A ROUGH SHOOT WITH REBEL

LOT of fun can be had on a rough shoot but, to my mind, one should have a young dog to train, and possibly a steady, wise old stager out as well. This adds enormously to the day's sport.



The other week my friend the Admiral, a kindred spirit, and I went forth with my two Labs, old Dan and his young son Rebel. also the old rabbit-catcher and two boys as beaters. We hoped to get four or five pheasants and possibly two or three partridges for the pot. Hen pheasants were barred, unless prospects for the pot looked really bad.

I should explain that, although I have the shooting over about 1,300 acres, quite half of it consists of orchards enclosed by 4-ft rabbit wire, with a strand of barbed wire above which is most awkward to negotiate. At the time of year of which I write, the few wild pheasants are all in the orchards feeding on the fallen fruit. Partridges, too, are to be found in the orchards, but it is hopeless to try to shoot among the fruit trees; you hear the birds get up, but rarely get a shot. Here and there, however, is a clearing planted with brussels sprouts, turnips and other greenstuff. Our plan was to spread out in the orchards and push the birds (if any) into the open patches of greens, making them believe that a perfect army of beaters was advancing.

Away we started then, on the first vast

orchard, trying to keep in line, although 80 yards apart. Dan, the old dog, ranged about near me and his young son Robel was at heel. We could not see each other, but noise and shouting were desirable, so we arrived at the patch of sprouts more or less in line. Here the Admiral and I

nipped round to the far side and our army of three beaters advanced.

An experienced covey of partridges went

out on the left and four clever cock pheasants and a hen field out on the right, all out of shot. So that was that. "Why tidnit you put me over there?" said the Admiral. Was it Albert Chevalier who sang. "What's the good of anyfink? Why nuffink ?" Anyway, we did see "sumfink." Staff work in guerilla warfare can be is a tricky business.

The next objective was a long, narrow strip of what was supposed to be rhubarb, but which was mostly weeds which got gradually thicker at the far end and provided a nice bit of cover. We pursued the same tactics through the orchards, walking zig-zag to and fro and covering as much ground as possible. We stopped 30 yards short of the rhubarb and weeds and I sent the Admiral round to head the strip, while I and the army advanced slowly.

Half-way along a hen pheasant got up and flew straight over the Admiral. Thinking it might be the only chance, I shrieked, "Shoot it." He shot it, and the next minute the air was full of pheasants. I didn't get a shot, but the Admiral got four cocks, plus the hen. Dan and Rebel got busy, but the birds were all dead and easy to find.

That bucked us up a lot. My day was made for me by Rebel a little later on, when I shot an old cock which got up out of some rushes by the river. He was a bit far, and, though he fell in the water, he disappeared in the rushes on the far side, an obvious runner. Rebel had not seen the bird fall, as the rushes were over his head where we were walking. When I sent him across the river (about 15 yards) he at once clambered up the overhanging bank and disappeared over the high ground beyond, where there was a lot of thick brambles. I was sure that the bird was still by the edge of the river, but the dog seemed to know what he was doing. In a few minutes he appeared on top of the high bank with his bird, swam across, and delivered to hand. A clever bit of work!

As we really did not want any more pheasants, we thought we would try some little partridge drives out of the orchards. A bit

optimistic, perhaps, with our three beaters, but I know the ways of my orchard partridges pretty well. For the first drive we had to stand among some gooseberry bushes and plum trees with our backs to high elms and a road. The Admiral got one and I got a brace in front of me. The Admiral's bird was a runner, but Rebel got it and Dan picked up mine. Then two more little drives, producing three more partridges, followed by lunch.

In the afternoon another friend came out,

bringing four more boys, and we tried some partridge drives over the arable land on a more partings drives over the arabic land on a more ambitious scale. The birds would not go right, though, owing to our beaters' ignorance of flanking, and we only got four or five more. As

a grand finale our army of seven tried to drive an immense field of thick high kale. I knew there were some partridges in it, but they did not get up. We shot three or four more pheasthough. One of them, a real runner, was caught in the kale by Rebel after a tremendous hunt. While Rebel was engaged in this, par-tridges got up all over the place, but the boy beaters were scattered about and one could not

Thus ended our very haphazard little day with a bag of ten pheasants, eleven partridges, a hare and two rabbits. But Rebel's two running cocks were what I thought of as I went to sleep that night. For, although barely two years old. he is rock steady to shot and fur and uses his brains all the time. I am sure his old father is proud of him.

It is curious how a young dog will suddenly find himself. Rebel was disappointing in Sep-tember, very self-willed and stubborn, and when hunting just pottered about at a trot. A nice quiet old gentleman's dog he seemed, yet intelligence of a high order shines in his eyes. Accustomed to old Dan's pace and thrust, I suppose I became impatient, although I tried not to show, it But now he is much faster and obviously uses his head. Perhaps next year I shall run him in a field trial, and I expect he will shall run him in a heat trian, and a sapective time make some of the other dogs sit up. But alas! I, too, am becoming an old potterer. Perhaps Behel suits himself to his master. C. H. K.

CORRESPONDENCE

SOME EARLY MOVING **PICTURES**

-What is the date of the first Sig.—What is the date or the mixt recorded "moving picture"? A recent "quiz" in a Sunday paper attributed to George Ellot the statement that she had been to see "a moving picture; she had been to see a moving picture, the prettiest thing you ever saw." What was the subject, and was it anything like the specimen I have before me now?

before me now?

This must be a pretty early specimen of the pre-photographic atten pt at moving pictures. Its authenticated life-history traces it to the Paris Exhibition of 1854, where it was bought for the legendary figure of £150, by a hilarious gentleman farmer of the expenditure of the second of the second of the second of £150. of Hampshire and brought home to delight, and perhaps pacify, the stay-at-home family 1

This work of art looks at first sight like a gaily-hued oleograph in a massive gilt frame. It represents a massive gift frame. It represents a river-scene, windmills, a red-roofed village with fishing boats on the left bank, right, a church with ruined tower and square open belfry; a watermill in front, a stone bridge with boys playing, and under the bridge a group of women—we call them the W.I. doing their washing in the river. People are fishing from a row-boat, a cow, sheep and goat are grazing in the foreground, and across the sky floats

amazingly a balloon.

This is pretty exciting, but more follows. In the church-tower is a small clock, and it goes. Not only that, but at the hour and half-hour it plays tunes, Toutes les diamans de la cou-ronne, Gibby la cornemuse finale, Valse la source de Karlsbad. I am sorry I do la source de Karlsbad. I am sorry I do not know these airs, but that is what it says inside, in faded cramped writ-ing. The tiny clock bears, oddly, the maker's name, "Gearing, Baker Street Bazaar." "La musique" is contained in a small drum at the rear. Alas, the little clock has lost its

Alas, the intric clock has lost its pendulum, and "la musique" is silent. But that is not all. A turn of the key, and the whole picture comes to life. This ought, of course, to happen spontaneously with the striking of the

The boat begins to rock sick makingly; the cow tosses her head, the goat and sheep tug at the grass and graze; the two windmills turn round like mad; the water-wheel round like mad; the water-wheel starts turning more slowly, the Women's Institute gets busy, and they all scrub and slap and shake their laundry, the while their chins are wagging away in the most realistic manner in the world.

Under the bridge a small aquatic bill direct the stream And across

Under the bridge a small aquatic bird dips into the stream. And across the bright blue sky proceed majestically, sersaely, not one but three balloons, like planets. One bear the balloons, like planets. One bear the a French eagle blaconed on its side. They pass across and vanish in the frame one by one. This will go on for a quarter of an hour. It must have been rather a disturbing timepiece, one would think, when in full going order. Sometimes, when the hundity

is right, or, who knows? when put in motion by some ghostly hand out of the past, a gentle rustling and creaking attracts the attention, and one sees the picture doing its stuff all on its own

The internal arrange ment is like a spider's web, with catgut strings and silken threads, and primitive wooden pulleys.

One wonders how many of such odd contraptions have survived first, the enquiring desire of youth to see "wheels go round" and later, the destruction of the blitz. A collection of them would have a historical interest for the future.

l remember street-pianos in my distant childhood that "did things" bu twas never al-lowed to make a close study of them.

And lately I was intrigued to find on the Haverfordwest hotel "cinema" of rather a different kind. This was on the subject of Napoleon at St. Helena, and operated with difficulty turning a handle on ton One stole away when it stuck at the point where a group of mourners were gazing at his tombstone. and refrained from further

"musique" also in the thick frame.
One also recalls "The Great
Panorama" of "The Death of Nelson." That was a red-letter spectacle of Victorian vouth: I can still recall the victorian youth; I can still recall the pride and grief that swelled in my very youthful bosom as Trafalgar was enacted lifesize before my eyes.— MADGE S. SMITH, Soberton House, Soberton, by Southampton.

CRICKET: THE UNFINISHED GAME

SIR,-The resumption of big cricket sir.—ine resumption of big cricket being now in prospect I would raise once more the problem of the un-finished game. Play for the play's sake is enough for those in the field, but, where games form part of a considerable connected series, spectaconsiderable connected series, spectators are entitled to expect a definite result in a given time, and this re-quirement is emphasised by the popu-larity of the knock-out type of

I write to suggest that in first-class matches results should be reckoned on finished innings—two,

The main objection to agree to decide if necessary on the first two innings is that the latter part of the game becomes visibly futile whenever



A SEAT FOR A SERVANT See letter: A Flap Seat on a Bench-end

there is no reasonable prospect of com-pleting all four; but if the simple device were adopted of doubling the device were adopted of doubling the first innings score of the side batting second, and reckoning this as their total for two innings until and unless it were either improved or worsened by their actual batting in a completed by their actual batting in a completed fourth imning, the position would be entirely altered. A third innings would at once become as vital as a fourth, with possible victory or defeat impending in every innings after the first. Obviously if only two innings were completed on doubling would be the original or those first two.

Few forte-law metabox for the complete of the complet

Few first-class matches fail to complete one innings for each side, but where they do so fail, or in one-day games, I suggest that a result is still obtainable if the first imnings is completed and one further wicket has fallen. Let the result go by the score at the fall of the corresponding wickets. Say that, for instance, Side A has completed an innings and the match has been rained off when three wickets have fallen with Side B batting. when play stops exceeds that of Side A at the fall of the fourth wicket, or otherwise the scores at the fall of the third wickets decide it.

Any proposal of this kind will be faced with the objection that it modi-

fies the value of winning the toss and affects the "follow on" rule. That might in itself be no bad thing, or at any rate well worth while if it checked the barbarous custom of stonechecked the caroarous custom of stone walling for a miserable draw. We can all think of very many games that such a rule would have marvellously improved.—P. CONWAY PLUMBE, Windy Ways, Grasty Lane, Setunoaks,

A FLAP SEAT ON A BENCH-END

SIR,—In the church at Tintinhull, Somerset, is this quaint seat attached to a bench-end. It has been here for

over 400 years.

The real object of fixing such a seat—it is known as a flap seat—was not so that it could be useful for a chance comer but strictly useful for a chance comer but strictly assigned to a servant of the occupants of the permanent pew. Sometimes a child would be allowed to use it. An entry in the accounts of St. Edmund 8, Salisbury, dated 1851, says "Mrs. Battes, widow, a flap seat fixt to her owne for servant 6d."—J. D. R. Darlington, Durham

THE UFFINGTON WHITE HORSE

SIR,-Travellers on the G.W.R. Didcot-Swindon line have for the past five years missed that landmark, the Uffington White Horse—he has been temporarily retired from British public temporarily rectives from air view under a bed of turf. Early in 1946 the Ministry of Works intends to restore him and the suggestion has been made that the completion of this work should be celebrated in some appropriate monner

manner.

The periodical scourings of the White Horse used to provide a two-day programme of sports, games and general junketings for the inhabitants of the Vale. The last of these festivals, or "pastimes" to give their local name, was held in 1857 and is fully described in The Scouring of the White Horse by

School-De

Conditions have changed since those days. The motor has replaced the horse. Crowds at functions are far larger; and the first essential in organ-ising any festival is to find within a short radius lovel ground clear of cultivation, accessible from a road and of sufficient area to hold all the veor summent area to note all the vehicles expected. Unfortunately, owing
to the great expansion of war-time
cultivation, the neighbourhood no
longer offers a suitable site; and it
follows that the White Horse must
once again dominate the Vale without
the warthe site of the common of the warthe site of the site o any public ceremony to mark his

Would-be visitors need not be Would-be visitors need not be deterred. They will find a small car-park at the top of the road leading up to Uffington Castle, and within 200 yards of the Horse. The magnifi-cent view well repays a visit.—Berk-

GUINEA-FOWL PARENTS

Sir.—We have a number of guinea-fowls here. Most of them live with hens, ducks and geese at some distance from the house, but one pair refuse to leave the immediate surbirds feed with cranes, peafowl, silver obeasants, etc.

Guineas are secretive about their Guineas are secretive about their nests, but I found the nest of this pair several times last season, and as usual after each removal of eggs, the nest was deserted and a fresh one started elsewhere. The last nest cluded me was deserted and a fresh one started clsewhere. The last nest cluded me and the ben sat duffully for the full period of 28 days. And now comes, to my mind, the interesting point—the cock had been assiduous throughout in excorting his lady every time she came of (about once in every two days) but during the last

in every two days) but during the last three days we never saw him at alf until he came down complete with wife and seven chicks. We ran them all into a coop (father leading the way and calling the chicks) and they settled down nicely, but father did all the brooding and mother set hy and weeked year. and mother sat by and watched very and mother sat by and watched very happily. Father made encouraging noises to the chicks, and it was to him and not to the hen that they ran. I may say that we seldom have

Glenarm, Rhu, Dumbartonshire

TREE SUPERSTITIONS

Sin, The fig's mysterious way of bearing fruit without any obvious flowering would naturally excite userpicion; the flowers are, of course, inside the structure we call its fruit. In Sicily it is believed that Judas hanged himself on a fig tree, since when the tree has never flowered, and

has become a plant of ill-omen, every leaf harbouring an evil spirit.

Other trees that have been credited with playing a part in the death of Judas are the tamarisk, Judas tree and elder.

With us the tamarisk is so es tially a seaside hedge plant, or shrub, it would not suggest itself as at all a likely choice for anyone's suicide by hanging from it, but in the East it is an important tree, one species pro-viding wood for building, fuel and the making of bowls, drinking cups,

It is often infested with gallnuts full of a bright red sap; this, it is used for dveing, might well have a sinister tradition. Some species, too, are characteristic of the steppes, where their gaunt growth shows up in the general desolation in a way

suggesting an unhappy past.
In Sicily it is believed that the
European tamarisk was originally a large and beautiful tree, but since its misuse by Judas it has been degraded

misuse by Judas it has been degraded into a small, deformed shrub, not even capable of kindling a fire; the ghost of Judas, they say, baunts the shrub even now.

Perhaps the "manna," a sugary substance some tamarisks produce, reminded Eastern folk of the original manna, and in reaction a balful tradition has grown up round a charming shrub

Elder, of course, has almost un-limited folk-lore attached to it: it was naturally credited with being the Judas tree, and is one of those sup-posed to have furnished the wood of the Cross.

It is possible that before reading It is possible that before reading became universal the often-told story of Judas in remorse going to "the Elders" might have connected the tree with his suicide. Elders are generally found near the kitchen premises of old houses in the country; they were not only good



THE LAST BOWL-TURNER TO USE THE POLE LATHE

See letter: Treen-majers

for warding off witches, but had a practical use in keeping away flies; flowers and fruit have many uses, but it is considered definitely unlucky to use the wood as fuel.—A. MAYO, Worthing, Sussex.

DO BATS EAT DEATH-WATCH BEETLES?

Sir,—Another lovely church roof from Suffolk, worth studying along with that of St. Mary's Church, Bury St. Edmunds (illustrated in COUNTRY LIFE recently), is the 15th-century double hammer-beam roof at Woolpit. not far from Bury. The wall-plates carry angels with outspread wings, and above each angel another figure occu-pies a canopied niche. Beam and pies a canopied niche. Beam and spandrels, too, are richly carved.

A curious feature is the number of bats which nest in the roof. The of bats which nest in the roof. The Rector tells me that they are allowed to remain, despite the dirt they cause, as they help to keep the timbers free from the death-watch beetle. The from the death-watch Deetle. The roof certainly seems to be in splendid condition, but I had not heard of this "cure" before. Comments on the cure" subject would be interesting, especially in view of the many church roofs afflicted with the death-watch beetle.

—G. B. Wood, 32, Micklefield Lane, Rawdon, Leeds.

SIR, -Bucklebury Common, Newbury, Berkshire, where Mr. Wells makes rakes, etc., with the aid of a pole lathe (COUNTRY LIFE, December 7), has

THE TREEN-MAKERS



THE DOUBLE HAMMER-BEAM ROOF AT WOOLPIT

See letter: Do Batt East Death-worlch Bestlee?

been noteworthy, for generations, for the manufacture of the wooden howls known as treen, up to 24-ins. diameter, all of them turned from elm by the age-old method identified in your

In the trade's heyday ten families engaged in the craft at Bucklebury: engaged in the craft at Bucklebury: their wood-ware furnished kitchen and dairy in the Kennet Valley below and in London as well. But the colony waged a losing fight with mechanical progress, and 30 years ago there was only one bowl-turner—and he single-banded: G. W. Lailey.

He told me at the time, there in

He told me at the time, there in his but among heather and holly, that he was probably the last bowl-turner in the whole country dependent upon a pole lathe. He was in business still in 1939, and I should like to hear that the lathe, itself home-made, hums a tune to-day to the sighing of the pole, 17 ft. of alder, chosen for springiness.

George Lailey used to cut a series of four bowls from one rough block of elm—bowls so graded in size that they fitted together. His lathe also turned scales, even to base and standard, until new weights-and-measures law tipped the scales against old practice

Bucklebury bowls were made to last: a life of 60 years is not unusual—a specimen in my household is "young" at 30 years. After tin and enamelled ware struck at the industry, there was still a market for Bucklesilver and mincing food; some bowls, marrying money, entered the service of the Royal Mint; the majority, though, fulfilled a homely use—they displayed perfumed soaps in fashion-able shops. Now history rustles on the fringe of this narrative of metal ousting wood,

of machinery capturing markets. Bucklebury was a centre of the anti-machinery riots of the 1830s: the rioters, farm-hands, went from village to village wereking and burning; some agitators were hanged, others were transported.

transported.

The pole lathe was to meet its match, the power lathe, years afterwards. Outside Bucklebury the pole survives chiefly in the beech woods about High Wycombe, wherea handful of bodgers continue to use it for the turning of Window-chair legs.

The word of the beautiful control of the

bury has a mile-long avenue of oaks, Dury has a mit-long avenue of oaks, in double rows, one planted c. 1716 in celebration of Marlborough's campaigns, the other in or after 1815 for Waterloo. Those oaks exhibit still, as in the days of the Georges, the constancy of timbered beauty. They as in the days of the Georges, the constancy of timbered beauty. They symbolise an enduring British quality that we call hearts of oak.—A. G. CLARKE, 23. Parkside, Mill Hill, London, N.W.7.

ALBINO SPARROWS

Six.—I have had the pleasure of watching a partly albino blackbird in my garden (who was, I am sure, polygamous!) but until this year I have never met an albino sparrow.

Not long ago, however, my helper at the market garden where I was working, cried excitedly: "Come quickly, here's a white bird—no, two white birds!"

So there were, perched on the hedge, then fluttering along in a most tantalising manner, so causing us to rush up and down banks and neglect our work that a good deal of extra toil, mud and sweat were incurred before the day ended. However, we both saw these birds and were able both saw these birds and were able to reassure each other that neither was "seeing things." We saw them, at intervals, for several days and managed to get a close enough view to decide that they were either house-sparrows or some very similar type (sparrow bill and size) and that one was almost pure white, but the other was, as the shop-ladies asy, "more of a beige," being white with creamy markings.

markings.
These two birds were in company with another sparrow in normal plumage; he seemed to go around with

them all the time and be on friendly terms. At one time the three of them terms. At one time the three of them spent a while exploring our compost heap, which is always frequented by hedge- and house-sparrows, blackbirds, robins and so on. None of the regular customers took any notice of the visi-tors, which seemed at variance with the usual tale of birds mobbing albinos.

-ELIZABETH CROSS, Selsey, Sussex. sparrow are prone to albinism, white or partly white specimens being by no means rare. The tendency seems to "run in families," for where one occurs others often appear. Polygamy in the blackbird is more exceptional: evidently our correspondent's bird was



A BASUTO'S PRIDE: HIS BLANKET See letter : A Basuto Picture

A BASUTO PICTURE

SIR,...I send you a picture of "young Basutoland" to show you the beautiful blankets which are almost the sole article of clothing worn by the Basu-tos. Even those who have rank and wealth and education seem to prefer weath and education seem to preter a gay blanket to an 'overcoat over their European clothing. On a recent visit to the country, on foot, I stayed with a chief whose blanket was the most magnificent I have ever seen, like the rising sun for splendour, in like the rising sun for splendour, in fact the design was the rising sun, done in black and gold and colours. All Basutos ride horses and my walking was a bit of a mystery to them. Two remarks made on the subject came to my ears. "He is a gentleman, why does he walk?" "Why is he travelling without blankets and without a horse?"—EDWARD MILES, 25, Church Street, Woodstock, Cape Province, South Africa.

THE COVENANTERS' REGIMENTS

SIR.—By way of a footnote to the interesting article Covenanters' Conventiele, 1866-1945, in Country Life of December 7, may I mention that two fine regiments were recruited from among the Covenanters in 1689: they

are the King's Own Scottish Bo and the Cameronians (Scottish Rifles). The title of the latter regiment per petuates the name of Richar Cameron, a famous leader of th Covenanters, and this regiment still observes a number of Covenanting customs, including an annual Conventicle.—T. J. EDWARDS (Major), Member of the Society for Army Historians. cal Research 20 Faton Square Landon SWI

THE NAMES OF COTSWOLD TILES

Sir,—I have lately been given the following list of names of different sized Cotswold tiles, and their respec-

tive lengths. Can any of your readers give the origin of the names, or say why the "Thirteens" are omitted (? bad luck), and why "Whippets" and why "Whippe take the place "Tens"?

The workman who supplied the list had with him a measuring stick with the various stick with the various lengths marked on it, with a star-shaped mark opposite "Murity," but seemed able to sort out and stack the lengths required by eye, without recourse to the stick. He called the compilation of the list for me "a little bit of clerking."

Old tiles were fixed with single pegs of oak or chestnut, about 3 inches long. Now copper nails are

Name Length	Name	e.enger
ins.		ins
All Up 61/2	Long Nine	. 13
Short Cock 7	Short	
	Whippet	131/
Middle Cock 71/6	Long	
	Whippet	14
Long Cock 8	Short Elever	
Short Cutting 8 1/2	Long Eleven	16
Long Cutting 9	Short	
	Twelve	. 17
Muffity 9 1/2	LongTwelve	18
Short Beck 10	Short	
	Fourteen	19
Middle Beck 10 1/2	Long	
·-	Fourteen	20
Long Beck 11	Short	
	Fifteen	21
Short	Long	
Bachelor 11 1/2	Fifteen	22
Long	Short	
Bachelor 12	Sixteen	23

Short Nine 12 ½ Long -EDWARD F. GRAY, Ripple Hall, Tewkesbury.

THE BELL BIRD

Sir,—A correspondent wrote to you about a pheasant which dived through a train window. Well, here is a very similar incident. It was a fine



THE AVENUE AT DE STEEG WHEN THE GERMANS HAD PASSED

See letter : A National Mon

Autumn afternoon when suddenly a large bird, probably a pigeon dived on to the drawing-room window. It had a small bell attached to its leg which jangled wherever it went. I think it must have escaped from captivity. The bird only cracked the window and then flew into a large beech tree. It soon left this, however and we never saw it again.

The cause of its flying into the window might conceivably have been this: the sun was been this: the sun was shining on the window and the bird was flying into the sun.— G. W. Preston-Jones. Harper House, Sherborne, Dorset.

A GERMAN GATE

Sir,-While out riding near Verden 518,—while out riding near Verden in Germany, I came across this rather quaint gate carved in the shape of a cow's head.

I believe that these ornamented gates are not uncommon in Germany and I have seen photographs of a horse and a crocodile carved like this one, but this is the only actual example that I have seen. It is unfortunate that the horns, which appear to have been part of the branches of the main piece, are rotted and off. The local inhabiare rotted and have been broken

off. The local innau-tants say that this gate is about 20 to 30 years old.—E. A. BOYLAN, 462/86 Herts Yeo. Fd. Regt., R.A., S.W.1.

This idea might be adapted amusingly in connection with gates on some of our new National Trust properties. -- Eu.]

THIS YEAR'S WASPS

SIR, -In this neighbourhood there were neither plums nor wasps. Six-teen miles east friends had both, as also had friends twenty miles north. It looks as though weather was the controlling factor in deciding whether we have wasps. B. C. FORDER, Yeoleaze, Brad-ford Abbas, Sherborne, Dorset

A NOVEL NEST

Sir, -- I had a curious sir, --I had a curious experience some years ago when returning from Scotland. I was motor-ing through Westmorland when we saw a hen sitting on a fence, which as we came abreast of

it, flew into the wind screen, laid an egg and retired into the further fonce, looking dazed but none the worse. The egg broke on the wind screen.

This sounds unbelievable, but both my maid and chauffeur can testify to its having really happened. -GWENDOLEN GASCOIGNE, Lotherton Hall, Aberford, Yorkshire.

THE GAME OF SOLITAIRE

SIR .-- I see in a recent issue that Lady Malise Graham has raised the question of history concerning the game of solitaire. I am more interested in the playing of the game and am wondering if any reader can enlarge on my know ledge of it.
To start with one removes the

centre marble, and then in the same way as one plays draughts, jumps over and removes the marble jumped, carrying on, but never diagonally, until one has one marble left in the centre. This I can do one way only.



A COW'S HEAD ON A GATE See letter : A German Gate

Does any reader know several ways, and is this the only game played on a solitaire board?—B. PITTUCK, c/o 50, West Hendford, Yeovil, Somerset.

A NATIONAL MONUMENT OF HOLLAND From Major Sir Edward Malet.

Sig. - In the course of my duty I had Six, -- In the course of my duty I had occasion to visit de Steeg, near Arnhem, of paratroop fame, in Holland, soon after the liberation.

I called on Count Bentinck, who

gave me the enclosed photographs of his great beech avenue, a national monument of Holland.



LOOKING ALONG COUNT BENTINCK'S GREAT AVENUE

See letter: A National Monument of Holland

There must be many of There must be many of your readers who are as interested in trees as I am and who will wish to know how this famous avenue was treated by the Germans

I quote Count Bentinck's description of the avenue: "The age of the avenue is not exactly known, but it is probably more than 200 years old and was planted by the Earl of Ath-lone soon after he rebuilt Middachten in 1697, after this had been destroyed by the French troops under Louis XIV. The Earl of Athlone was of course the Baron de Reede before he was honoured for his services in

"The avenue—although over-ripe-as beech trees as a rule do not live so long—was still very fine and was always cared for in the most scrupu-lous way, only ten dead trees being cut down, which during a storm might be blown down and endanger the

traffic; now after these centuries of care it has fallen a prey to Nazi revenge and bestiality!

"Although the avenue belonged to me it was under the protection of the government and celebrated even outside this country as one of Nature's natural monuments.

"I should be very much obliged if you would kindly give publicity to this case of vandalism," Bentinck's letter closes.—Epward W. MALET, 725 K. Mil. Gov. Det., B.A.O.R.

LONG LADDERS

Six.—While out for a walk this morning I saw, lashed to the wall of a tall building, the longest non-extending one-piece wooden ladder I had ever seen. I was sufficiently interested to count the rungs. I made the number 72 the first time but confess



JACK CADE'S STONE

that my eyes became confused as my counting neared the top. On a recount I made it 71. Assuming it to be a 70-rung ladder, it would be interesting to learn whether other readers know of any longer ones in use. I should emphasise that my ladder seemed of perfectly normal construction two wooden potes each apparently in one puce. It is, of course, in this and the ladder's capability of being moved the interest lies. Much longer ladders of steel clamped to factory chimney stacks, and of the extendable variety associated with five-engines, are common.—It, C. I., Fanhorough, Kent.

FRUIT OF MALAYA

Sir.—The duri-an (described by a correspondent, December 7) has a most offensive putrid smell. An Englishman in Borneo once told me that whenever he eats one, he does so in his bath!

The delicious mangosteen is far more entitled to be called the "emperor of fruit." P. G. TILLARD, Taunton, Somerset.

CHANGING NATURE

Sir,—While in Lyndburst in the New Forest this Summer 1 came across quite a large number of sundew.— KATHLEEN THOMAS, Kingston-on-Thames, Surrey.

[Other correspondents report the sundew on Dartmoor, in the Lake District and, 40 years ago, in the New Forest.--ED.]

SCHOOLBOYS AND A BRIDGE

Sir, Enclosed is a view of Tarr Steps, Exmoor, showing the pupils of the Minehead Grammar School working on a scheme of protection. They, together with some scouts of the 42nd (St. George's) Troop, Taunton, volunteered for this work, and went under canvas near the bridge. In view of the damage to this ancient structure, which is considered Bronze Age work, it was necessary to effect protection of the piers from floods and floating haults of loose timber. The boys lifted and placed against the piers nearly 50 great stones; this, during the late Summer and early Autumn. Alfred Vowles, Red Deer, Hobotol. Minchead. Somerset.

GREY SOUIRREL PEST

Sig.—Let me say in reference to the letter of Mr. Colin Forbes in your issue of September 21, 1485, about grey squirrels that I live in what might be called the very heart of the grey squirrel country and I have not known squirrels to eat up vegetable gardens except sweet corn (you call it maize). The squirrel has lots of crimes. He will strip the acorns of your oaks and tote of small branches

to get them, he will strip fruit trees and bushes and other trees as well, but I never knew him to attack a vegetable garden. The rabbits and woodchucks do that here for us.

Let me suggest that if our squirrels have become a pest, if you could get some of your social leaders to popularise their fur, which is warm and pretty, suggest some humane traps and persuade your fur dealento buy peits, the squirrels would soon disappear. Even with our vast woodlands, forty years ago, squirrels were getting scarce when their fur was popular. Now they are increasing again, particularly the sound of the persuada of the sound of

THE END OF A

Sir...In the little hamlet of Cade Street, near Heathfield, Sussex, stands this stone pillar to commemorate the spot where the leader of an insurrection in 1450 met his death.

It is near the end of a cottage garden and the inscription has become so weather-worn as to make it almost unreadable. That which is still discernible reads:

Near this spot was slain the notorious rebel JACK CADE by Alexander Iden Esq., Sheriff of Kent A.D. 1450. His body was carried to London and his head fixed on London Bridge.

his head fixed on London Bridge.
Jack Cade, who also claimed the
name of John Mortimer, headed an
insurrection of Kentish men, defeated
a royal host at Sevenoaks, and
marched into London crying "Now is

Mortimer Lord of London."

His triumph was short-lived. His



EMPTY WOOD-APPLE CASES
See letter: Wild Elephants and Wood-apples

followers disbanded, Cado fied with a price on his head. It was at this spot near Heathfield where he met his death while resisting arrest, a spot which in later years was to become known as Cade Street, but the stone set up to commemorate the event is in such a poor condition that it is entitled to the stone of the condition of the stone of the condition of th

WILD ELEPHANTS AND WOOD-APPLES

Sir.—Among the forest fruits on which the Ceylon wild elephant feeds is the wood-apple, called also

wood-apple, called also the elephant-apple. It is borne on a spiny tree (Firmin a Lephantian), often in clusters, and is round, and about the size of a cricket ball. This fruit has a hard, woody shell, enclosing a mass of soft brownish pulp, which rural folks love to eat, relishing it the more when they mix it with bee-honey.

In my jungle rabbles, I have often picked up these fruits which have fallen on the ground; and a good many of them, I noticed, were merely empty cases with a circular opening bored on the top, without the edible, mealy substance within. The willower told me it was

substance within. The villagers told me it was the work of wild dele that the phants. They explained that the clephant, picking up the wood-apple will be the phants of th

lated by the digestive organs of the beast.

This looked an interesting theory, but I shook my head in doubt, for on several occasions I have watched captured elephants in the village eating wood-apples, but never did they swallow the fruit whole. On the the fruit whole the fruit whole the fruit whole on the fruit whole of the fruit whole of

completely hollow shell-cases. But in spite of my scepticism. I had a sneaking suspicion that the villagors who was generally sell the desired with the sell of th

Since hearing this "empty woodapple" story, and wondering what the most sensible and plausible explana-



COCKPIT OR LODGE?

See letter: At St. Donats

AT ST. DONATS

Sin. I am most interested in the old except) at tWoolavington and wonder if this little building in my photograph might not be a cockpit tao? No one seems to know anything about my possible cockpit, which has now a stands by the side of the road a mile from the hamlet of St. Donats in Glamorgan. I am told that it has at one time been used at shooting-parties by keepers and beaters for lunch in bad weather. No doubt the window account floor. The entrance to this "desirable property" is through an old arched doorway from the road.—DOROTHY HAMILTON DEAN, Llankuit

on arched doorway from the four DOROTHY HAMILTON DEAN, Llantwil Major, Glamorgan.
[More likely a late 18th-century octagonal lodge. Some toll-houses were built on this plan.—ED.]



SCHOOLBOYS AND SCOUTS PROTECT TARR STEPS

See letter: Schoolboys and a Bridge

"... the years that the locust bath esten ..."

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NEW BOOKS

A HISTORY OF RACING

Reviews by HOWARD SPRING

APTAIN R. C. LVLE, who was the racing correspondent of The Times, has not lived to see his book Royal Neumarkst (Putnam, 38a.) come from the press. It was intended that the book should be published in 1940, but this was not possible. The book has now been revived and has a foreword by Mr. Aliai Division.

The diarist Evelyn, as the author reminds us, has a lovely phrase describing some Arab race-horses which he observed at Newmarket. "They trotted like does, as if they did not feel the ground." (This is comparable with Masefield's line describing a sailing ship in calm weather:

honour of being the scene of the first recorded horse-race in England. That was at Wetherby, in Yorkshire, in A.D. 210. "It is specifically recorded that the mounts taking part were Arabian." But at any rate it was on Newmarket Heath that the Iceni dwelt, who drove horses attached to seythed chariots and were a terror under Boadicea. The Iceni settlement was at Exning, and when this was stricken by plague "its market was removed to the adjoining village, where a new market was set up. Thus Newmarket receives its name."

The royal connection goes back a long way. Richard II is known to have raced on the Heath against the

andananananananananananananan

ROYAL NEWMARKET. By Captain R. C. Lyle

THINGS ONE HEARS. By Robert Lynd
(Dent. 8s. 6d.)

LOWER DECK. By Lieutenant John Davies
(Macmillan, 7s. 6d.)

NIGHTCAP AND PLUME. By George R. Preedy
(Hodder & Stoughton, 9s. 6d.)

 α

Treading the quiet water like a fawn.) But there is more to racing than the speed and beauty of a particular horse. As Mr. Robert Lynd says in a book of which I shall presently more fully speak." "It is only because our main interest is not in speed for its own sake, but in relative speed, that we continue to enjoy such things ast horse-racing in an age of mechanical invention. After all, the swiftest Derly horse follow along at about the same pace as a motorcar slowing down on its way through a built-up area. Yet they do not seem to be olioping along. They sweep round Tattenham Corner like thunderbolis?

RELATIVE SPEED

This book of Captain Lyle's, then, is founded on the relative speed of horses: but it is not about horses only. The title is not Newmarket but Royal Newmarket, and round such a title, as you may well imagine, there is a corruscation of amusing, entertaining and scandalous anecdote. All sorts of queer sidelights come into view when you start on such a survey. Who, for example, would expect to find that Britannia on our pennies was drawn from a Newmarket amazon? Yet it was so. The Duchess of Richmond, who "possessed quite extraordinary fame as a horsewoman," and who was "as lovely of figure as she was of face" (though smallpox later ravaged her beauty) was seen at Newmarket by the sculptor Rotier, who made a sketch "which became the basis of his design of the seated Britannia, which appears on the coinage to this day." It was said that "no one who had seen her Grace could

mistake who had sat for Britannia."

Newmarket cannot claim the

Earl of Arundel, "owners up." But it was James! who put the place "on the map." Horse racing had been more popular in Scotland than in length, and when James came south he and his Scottish nobles made Newmarket the centre of their sport. Racing was not the only attraction. There were, too, "hawking, coursing, cock-fighting and taking dotterels, when those little plovers were on passage in carly May."

passage in early May."

From then on, Newmarket has been more or less the "metropolis" of horse-racing and training. There were often high words and high deeds between the new-come Scottish nobles and the English, and Captain Lyle records an occasion when a Scot struck Philip Herbert with a riding rod. It looked as though a national quarrel would blow up, but King James, who was present, cooled down the English tempers by creating Herbert a knight, a baron, a viscount and an earl on the spot-surely the swiftest ascent ever recorded through the pages of Debrett! "Whereby," said a chroni-cler, "it is probable a tumult was avoided

CROMWELL'S HORSES

When Cromwell became Protector, Newmarket suffered but horsebreeding did not; and at the Restoration an order was issued for the seizure of Cromwell's horses, "said to be the best in England, to be carried to the Mews for the service of his Majesty."

In a series of vivid chapters Captain Lyle shows us the renewed and raffish glory of Newmarket under Charles II and his brazen friends Buckingham and Rochester. It was a hard-ridling, hard-drinking, hardgambling and lecherous resort. Queen Anne, too, was a great supporter of the Turf, though, in her reign, Newmarket lost its virtual monopoly. The story is brought right up to

The story is brought right up to our own day: a story of royal patronage, great owners, great trainers and great horses. Which was the most famous race-horse the world has known? Carptain Lyle thinks Eclipse, bred by the Duke of Cumherland, uncle of George III. "English racing to-day," he says, "dates itself from Eclipse, and the day on which he was fouled is the day of all days in the history of the thoroughbred. . He was never beaten. At the stud he gained his greatest reputation, and immortality. The male line descendants of Eclipse are still the greatest aggregate winners on the race courses of the world!"

PINE ESSAVS

Mr. Robert Lynd's book to which 1 have referred is called Things One Hears (Dent. 8s. 6d.). As one expects from "Y. Y.." this is a collection of essays, and if there is a better what I may call "essayist in general practice" than "Y. Y." I have yet to neet him. Occasionally, some man of letters who does not use the essay as his normal medium may spend a long time on caliorating an essay that is superb, but

"Y. Y." is in constant operation, tyrannised by a weekly "going to press": from time to time, as in this volume, he gives us the cream of his weekly work; and when the moment comes for going through all the volumes and giving us the best of each, then, I imagine, that book will have an indisputable place among the work of the great British essavists.

On the back of a book which lies before me now on my desk, I see that a reviewer has praised a novel in these words: "Very much a contemporary novel, with values that belong to to-day and not, as is so often the case, to the world of a generation ago." This seems to me to be a misunderstanding of the meaning of the word Values do not change from "values. generation to generation: they are the standard against which the varying conduct of each generation must be indeed: and a novelist or essavist or dramatist whose values are right will have given us something worth having, wherever in historic time be may place his action; while a mere presentation of contemporary chaos is not necessarily worth having.

Now, what strikes me about "Y. Y." is that, almost always, his values are right. I don't mean that he is consciously a moralist, though every man of right values is a moralist in the long run. He is never out to preach, any more than a linnet on a thistle or a dew-drop on a grass-blade, but, like these two, he has infinite power of refreshment. He joys in things that are small but never trivial; his scope, in the particular, may be Lilliputian, but in the general it is right and same and therefore, to say the least, sizeable. He writes here of the lovely familiar birds that may be neglected by those in pursuit of the rare and spectacular; and this is a point that one could well stress in relation to his own shy attractive expression of value

A GUN CREW'S STORY

Licutenant John Davies, R.N.V.R., has been awarded Messrs. Macmillan's 8800 "Centenary Prize" for the best work of general literature submitted. It is called Lower Dock (Macmillan, 7s. 6d.) and is an account of the süthor's experiences as a rating in a destroyer in the Mediterranean.

He was a mumber of a guestrew, and, though we feel a good deal of the general pulse of the ship, the story is essentially that of the handful of me who made up the crew. Some were "regulars," some "hostillites only." They were a rough-and-rady, often blasphemous, always vigorous-spoken collection, freely using in quiet times the British sailor's perogative of grousing, utterly devoted to the ship and to the matter in hand when the stress of action comes.

Seeing that the time under consideration is 1942 and that the ship's normal "beat" was from Malta to Alexandria, there was action in plenty, and the book ends with the going down of the ship. It is the sort of story that could be told of many destroyers if there were anyone to tell it. Fortunately for Skye, she had this writer aboard: his narrative may stand for many others; his dedication is not only to the members of his own gun-crew but "to all the others who ossessed little in this world except loyalty, generosity and magnificent courage." A generous dedication; and A generous dedication; and the whole book is a generous tribute to worth

GUSTAV OF SWEDEN

George R. Precely's novel Nightof and Plume (Hodder and Stoughton, 9s. 8d.) is the story of Gustav III of Sweden from the time of his accession, through the revolution which cast aside the reactionary parties in the country, through the struggle which ensured the freedom of Sweden from the designs of Russia, up to the time of Gustav's assessination.

Gustay was a brilliant man, the greatest royal natron and practitioner of the arts that Europe has known. He was of unusual personal beauty. The story of his struggle for Sweden is a fascinating one, and George R. Preedy has given us all its surface colour and movement as well as the deep political implications. Had the author realised that a comma does not perform the function of a full-stop, the reading would have been pleasanter. The book abounds in sentences like "Gustaf tried to turn his thoughts, he had great concerns of his own to deal with, this stranger, that now, a man coming to tell him he knew this most perilous secret, the lives of all his friends hung by a hair.

POEMS OF ENGLAND

A DEEP love of England (not of British or Dominion or Empire, but England 1) runs through nearly all the Sixty 1, spice 3 and 0 me (Muller, 7s. 6d.) now collected by Eric Chilman. The country habit thas time by the heart; and, for him, and the passionately felt. Although the uses traditional forms, he does so with constantly fresh craftsmanship springing from a pure sincerty in his thought. His poem Village, for instance, is a simple statement of a number of the property of the statement of a number of the property of the statement of the state

Another moving poem ends thus: Weary I was, yet heard with heart of grace Those local syllables in that lone

Those local syllables in that lone place.

My heart cried out to darkling mead

and stead
"These names are England," and
was comforted.

The poems By-Pass, Trees, Mr. Bond and A Voung Plantation, also deserve special mention. Mr. Chilman's muse may falter now and then in dealing with other subjects; never when his theme is England.

V. H. F.



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FARMING NOTES

BACK TO THE FARM

F the 10 000 Servicemen who the 10,000 Servicemen who are to be released for agricultural work under the new block release system, 6,700 will come out of the Army, 2,200 out of the Air Force, and 1,100 out of the Navy. This allocation no doubt reflects the proportion in which farm-workers and farmer's sons joined the three Services. The Army does not require the specialised knowledge of mathematics and other book learning that the R.A.F. expects in new recruits. It is understandable that the practically minded farm-worker, who left school at 14, should have gone into the Army. Those who were into the Army. Those who were selected for the Services by the War Agricultural Committees were not con-Agricultural committees were not considered key men in agriculture, at any rate on the particular farms where they worked. Some of them were milkers, it is true, but there was a time when girls were going into the Women's Land Army so fast that the Committees were instructed to send milkers into the Services because they ould be replaced by W.L.A. members.

from the W.L.A. is shrinking in

umbers. Many of the most experienced girls who have been working as milkers through the war are now going back to their civilian jobs as shop assistants, dressmakers, manicurists, and so on. They can be replaced only by the young men whom they replaced. In deciding on the men who should be released under this block scheme, priority should certainly be given to milkers and stockmen. I doubt, myself. whether 10,000 will be nearly enough to meet the needs of the dairving Where two milkers were industry. Where two mines are employed before the war, three are now needed if regular time off is to be given at the week-ends. This is an ssential consideration in planning the future staffing of the dairy industry. Men will not willingly work seven days a week when there are other jobs open to them that give them Saturday afternoons and Sundays to themselves. Who will blame them?

Farewell to Italians

TALIAN prisoners are joyfully Interest few weeks and many farmers the next few weeks and many farmers men who have been billeted with them and who have been billeted with the German, but he readily falls in with what others are doing, and, treated fairly, he earns his keep. He does not like our climate and he chatters a good deal when he gets a chance, but there produced as much food as they have in the last year or two without the help of Italian prisoners. Now we are told that some Germans will be allowed to come out individually on to farms to take the place of the Italians who have been working regularly as milkers and stockmen. In the 1914—1918 was some of the southern Get the camps earned a good reputation for themselves, and, in spite of the Nazi regimentation which afflicts the modern generation of Germans, I hope we shall get some useful men sent to us. For how long can we count on their services? Mr. Tom Williams has assured us that the German prisoners will be here to see us through the 1946 harvest. I cannot see yet the source to the control of German prisoners will be here to see us through the 1946 harvest. I cannot see yet the source is a control of the control of German prisoners will be here to see us through the 1946 harvest. I cannot see yet the source is the source of t

The Real Wage

ON January 2 the Agricultural Wages Board is due to meet again to consider the claim of the workers unions that the minimum wage for men should be £4 10s. a week instead of the present £3 10s. No doubt the chairman and independent members have used the weeks since the case was presented to make a fresh attempt to assess the real income of farmaneus of the control of the control

Branding Reactors

A QUESTION that came up at a The bestians trust has made me think. The bestian or that the best way of cleaning up our herds would be to require that all cows that react to the test should be branded so that buyers in the market could identify animals which have failed to pass the test? The test was presumably the tuber-culin test. Freedom from contagious abortion is no less important, but that is by the way. I do not think that the sortion is no less important, but that is by the way. I do not think that the us far on the road to a clean bill of health. What we must do is to start in a district with a group of attested farms, put a ring round them, and to clean up their herds with some financial assistance in necessary. Once clean areas have been established the charmed circle can be extended until large areas are clear. There is no measures on these lines, and milk from attested herds earns a premium of 4d. a sgallon that the same of 4d. a sgallon of 4d. a sg

Bonus for Butterfat

THERE is another form of bonus The quality production which I wan been purely the production which I wan been purely to the production of the production of

THE ESTATE MARKET

AN UNPRECEDENTED PERIOD-1945

N vain may the records of deal-ings in real estate be examined, or the recollections of those who have for years studied every aspect of the market be consulted, nothing reveals any record of a period quite comparable with the twelve months now closing. The aggregate realisations of town and country property are nearly thrice what they amounted to in 1944, yet only a strongly qualified satisfaction is felt by the majority of buyers, and too many of the vendors, being the victims of forced sales, feel no satisfaction at Taxation on the current or reputed yield from real property has remained at an oppressively high level, and Death Duties have continued to el executors to throw all sorts of freeholds and leaseholds into the market. For thousands of individual and corporate holders 1945 has meant than one additional year of undoubted and unmerited deprivation of income, and, as hundreds of com-plaints that have come to our know-ledge indicate some of those who have derived no income in rents throughout the year have had to find money to defray legal and other liabilities in respect of what they nominally hold. Millions of pounds' worth of property remain sterilised either as vacant sites or as structures too much damaged to be tenantable. A vast quantity of property of all descriptions is still under the stranglehold of requisition, and owners who cannot get any be freed are aware that much of it seems to be serving no public purpose

"DEFENCE" REGULATIONS PERFECTLY natural and legiti-I mate schemes to grapple with business problems have been frus-trated by new enactments, some of which, though the war in Europe and that in the Far East have been over many months, are dubbed Defence Regulations. Against what is the so-called "Defence"? Property owners may be excused if, seeing some of the enactments and, yet more, some of the suggestions for enactments, they or the suggestions for enactments, they regard them as a defence of those who are prepared to curtail or abolish every property right. One such scheme, the proposal to control the selling price of houses, underwent such destructive criticism that it was quietly dropped. The practical difficulties of another scheme, regulation of the rents of furnished accommodation, are hardly yet evident, but they are fundamental, and will probably add to the burden of the overworked County Court Judges and the Lords Justices of the Court of Appeal. Beyond doubt there have been innumerable instances of gross exorbitance in the demands for houses for sale, and in the rents extorted for furnished accommodation, but it is hardly possible to prevent this sort of profiteering without hitting honest and reasonable people.

FIXITY OF TENURE

NONE will question the need for more house-room, but it is a hibition of the adaptation of private residences and hotels as offices will do much to increase the available volume. while it will tend to prevent persons who want to carry on a business or profession from doing so. Even the enterprise of large firms in buying a whole block of premises is encouraging certain agitators who urge that persons who happen to have a short tenancy of some small part of such a block ought to enjoy fixity of tenure. Happily, as far as can be gathered, this notion is

approval in official quarters. A considerable degree of fixity of tenure is created under the Rent Restrictions Acts, and very harshly it presses on property owners. Unlike the war-time property owners. Unlike the war-time enlargement of the farmer's rights of occupation, the rent-restricted tenure of ordinary urban premises has little of ordinary urban premises has little to recommend it, except from the standpoint of only one party to the contract, and that not the one who bears the burdens of repairs and taxation, and third-party risks. has seen a limited concession as regards petrol and tyres, and the purchase of new motor cars, so doing something to help owners and tenants of country help owners and liberty to spend money on repairs is likely to be fully restored early in 1946. Very many of the price particulars of property that has been sold contain a note that the vendor has granted a reduction, in some cases as much as £500, towards the cost of repairs. During the whole of the year the trend of prices of rural freeholds has been upward, especially since the menace of bombing ended. The demand for houses in from an acre up to 25 acres has steadily improved, and if that for smaller lots has not been so active it is more for want of opportunities of buying them than anything else, as the tenants know when they have got a good proposition. Farms of all sizes, from 50 acres up to almost 1,000, seldom fait to reach reserves under the hammer, and it is significant how many were offered with possess so soon as tenancies were seen to be an impediment to dealing. LARGE PURCHASES OF LAND

THE year has been noteworthy for the acquisition of large areas of agricultural land by corporate bodies The Duchy of Lancaster and the Duchy of Cornwall both added to their already extensive holdings, and charitable trusts and insurance companies showed practical recognition of the investment value of land. The pres-

sure of death duties has brought many thousands of acres into the market and family tenures of long duration

NEW FACTORS

CONSIDERATION of the fore-going glance at the governing conditions of the market for realty should suffice to convince anyone that the time-honoured treatment of any review of a year's work no longer meets the case. Formerly the equilibrium between buying and selling was mainly a matter of ways and means, the vendors were mostly acting voluntarily, and the buyers, save for a short time in the "boom" period after the first world war, could bide their time for bargains. In the case of farms the prices were often very low, like those obtainable for the produce, or the wages of the farm-hands. The valuation of realty was not complicated by considering a tithe of the now prevalent factors. Agents who could claim to factors. Agents who could claim to have arranged a good round turnover needed only to state it more or less approximately. Owners were not worried by the regulations and restric-tions, and the first principles of owner-ship and tenancy as it had developed throughout a century or more were taken for granted. Broadly unpexing. taken for granted. Broadly speaking, it was not until after the first world war that much was said about the comparative merits of land and othe comparative ments of land and other property. The opinions then advanced about that point remain true to-day, in so far as the essential attributes of real estate go, and the higher net yield of real estate compared with many other types of investment, slight though the difference may be, is a feature appreciated by investors large



Painted by F. E. Jackson, A.R.A.

OSEPH RUSSELL is typical of the skilled workers in metal for which his native city of Birmingham is famous the world over. He is 12. At the age of 12 he was apprenticed as a machine-tool maker, but changed over at 17 to his father's calling of brass-casting. This is the process by which copper and zinc are melted together and the alloy east into ingots, which in turn are rolled into strips and sheets. When Mr. Russell started, 35 years ago, it was still a 'craft', involving the knowledge of a number of closely guarded secrets. Only expert craftsmen could cast good ingots and they were able to earn high wages. Melting was done in crucibles over coke fires, known as 'pit furnaces', and the pouring of the molten metal was controlled by hand. Not only was the work hard, hot and unhealthy, but the quality of the brass depended solely on the skill of the caster, who decided when the metal in the crucible was ready for casting by the vibration in the stirrer. Today casting has been transformed. The bulk of brass and other copper alloys is made in electric furnaces, in which the metal is melted by the passage of a high voltage current. These are operated by one man, and the quality of the final product rests now not entirely on his skill, but on scientific instruments as well. The preparation of the moulds requires considerable experience. By virtue of his experience Mr. Russell has visited a number of works in Great Britain and even South Africa, to teach others. In peace time the sheets and strip made from the ingots east by Mr. Russell may become the radiator

of your car, the eyelets for your shoes or your lipstick holder. In war they are used for shell and cartridge cases and many other products. Many thousands of rounds fired in the Battle of Britain were produced from metal cast by Mr. Russell.



GAYER HOUSECOATS



scarlet turquoise lemon tawny browns violet. The button through style prevails in the absence of zips and the coats are slender in outline though a few billowing skirts are beginning to appear on the scene with the new woollens and the nylon taffetas Rayon taffeta house coat-cum dinner dresses with gar lands of mixed flowers making horizontal bars of colour on primrose and apple green grounds were shown in the first collections for 1946 They looked very post war when they rustled into the showroom. The White House are showing pure silk moirés velvets and satins in jewel colours plain cut to show off the beauty of texture and colour but definitely dinner dresses as well as housecoats. Fine woollens in Paisley patterns with long full sleeves and wide skirts a mass of limp folds are equally faccinating Fortnum and Mason ally velvet and fine wool—the velvet makes the plain cross over top and facing for the three-quarter sleeve the wool the rest Debenham and Freebody's housecoats in dove grey wool suiting have great chic with their wide gored skirts and three-quarter sleeves deeply cuffed with violet or emerald green velvet Double breasted thick fleecy woollens are piped with a bright contrast flame on green cherry on deep blue with buttons picking up the bright colour again most effectively

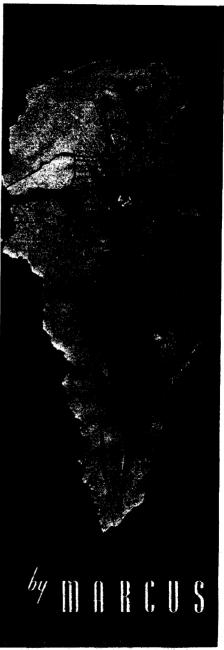
Women are adding deep shaped sequined belts to the silk housecoats to dress them up and making sheep to dress them up and making sheep skin boots and sippers knitted socks on falt wedge soles to wear with thick wool housecoats. The wool's pleated fully on to a tight plain bodice that buttons to the waist the bodice lined and faced with a scrap of old satin. They look mediavelal with their bunchy skirts and plain tops. Plaid housecoats in the firm woolless are simply tallered. firm woollens are simply tailored with fancy buttons and belts Scotch tartans are being made up for the children buttoning right to the ground like their mama's Fortnum and Mason are showing adorable quilted satin dressing gowns for bables in white and pastel colours

JIGHTGOWNS are frilled and frivolous looking with the frills placed like those on the pina fored children in a Victorian story book projecting over the deep arm holes Necklines are low and square The other main style for nightgowns shows the gathered Empire bodice

PHOTOGRAPHS ANTHONY BUCKLEY











that is so becoming, with the closely fitting bias skirt below. In some of the newest designs for Spring, carried out in one of the fine soft nylon fabrics, a gathered pale pink vest is placed in the centre of a pale blue nightgown which has a gauged bodice, narrow shoulder straps and is cut low in front. Marshall and Snelgrove are showing nylon nightgowns, frilled and gathered, very fresh and crisp looking, also white French nylon knickers, cut on the cross, and slips with fine hand-made rolled edges and a minute rolled bow for a finish

Elizabeth Arden are making brief pants. mostly needlerun lace, ecru coloured, encrusted on to a waist yoke of peach georgette. Night-gowns are similarly luxurious-looking with real lace crossover tops. They make a speciality, too, of hand-knited bed jackets in elaborate lacy patterns, or tailored and ribbed like a sports sweater and lined with silk. At Arden's, you can find the newest thing in plastic sponges-tinted cau-de-nil and peach-that look exactly like

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SAUCE DIABLE

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Rayon georgette nightgown, peach coloured, with a drawstring neckline. Walpoles.

House socks in white knitting with scarlet felt toe cap and soles and peasant embroidery.
Quilted plastic sponge bag. Elizabeth Arden.

large marshmallows when they are swollen out in the water. We have photographed one of their smart plastic sponge bags. Bed jackets for small girls match their mama's in looped wool or quilted silk. Walpoles show them. The quilted jackets they will make up to order in their own workrooms. Lydia Moss show charming tailored housecoats in powder blue wool and lay a blackberry grosgrain ribbon all down the front and on the bottom of the three-quarter They carry on the two-colour effects in their lingerie, piping filmy pastel chiffon camiknickers and nightgowns with dark, incisive contrasts.

Blouses are tucked and frilled, given crisp bows on mitred pockets, Edwardian neckbands and detachable frilled yests and jabots, floppy, artists' bows. A Morley blouse has a front composed of two lozenges edued with narrow ruffles the front pouches over the skirt giving the effect of a bolero. A long-sleeved marocain fastens at the back and has a rolled edge to the round close neck. The blouse is full, the material chalk white and matt. Striped cotton poplin shirts look fresh and Springlike with Peter Pan stiffened collars and bows piped on the cross. Cotton poplins in plain colours are frilled in front, or the frills edge the bottom of a shoulder yoke and Peter Pan collars. Miss Lucy makes adorable ruffled pin-dotted chiffon and georgette blouses, navy and white, and gauges them in a panel down the front. Many blouses are gathered on to a flat bib in front and tie at the throat with a neckband, Edwardian fashion.

P. JOYCE REVNOLDS

CROSSWORD No. 831

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ACROSS—I, Discloses 6, Put on; 9, Short wave; 10, Ruler; 11, Sitwell; 12, Tantrum; 13, Ell; 14, Marryat; 17, Capable; 19, Listens; 22, locberg; 24, Lit; 25, Sitwell; 12, Tantrum; 13, Ell; 14, Marryat; 17, Capable; 19, Listens; 22, locberg; 24, Lit; 25, Sitwell; 12, Sapart; 24, Dirtyria, 13, Ellen; 32, Resisters, DOWN,—I, Desks; 2, Sport; 3, Lorenter; 14, Stanter; 24, Stanter; 25, Soprit; 3, Pospit; 6, Parnsip; 7, Tolershei; 5, Nurshei; 14, Shander; 22, Listens; 24, Stanter; 25, Stanter; 25, Stanter; 26, Stanter; 27, Stanter; 27, Stanter; 27, Stanter; 28, Stanter; 28, Stanter; 29, Stanter; 20, Stanter; 20, Stanter; 21, Stanter; 21, Stanter; 21, Stanter; 22, Stanter; 23, Stanter; 24, Stanter; 25, Stanter; 26, Stanter; 26, Stanter; 26, Stanter; 26, Stanter; 26, Stanter; 27, Stanter; 27, Stanter; 27, Stanter; 28, Sta

ACROSS.

---, home from sea."
R. L. Stevenson (4, 2, 3, 6) [9. Why make angry with fragrant gum? (7)

10. Fetter (7)

11. Parched from a ride, it's clear (4) I'm in the plan, which costs a penny un-coloured (5)

13. Joint (off the ration) (4)

16. Cleans out (7) 17. City of fine linen (7) 18. One woman in her time plays many parts (7)

21. A flower fruiting (7)
23. She's apparently the offspring of a Dane (4)

24. Drive, with the witch's familiar in the van (5) 25. Hygienic spot for a king to lose his baggage (4)

28, 12 perhaps (7)

29. Applause (7) 30. 11's not only the Welshman who may address his country thus (4, 2, 2, 7)

DOWN

1. "And so, my brother, ------Catullus (4, 3, 8) 2. You can time that of H. G. Wells (7)

3. London ones are by name courtly (4) 4. Lattice (7)

5. Coleridge called this poetry "natural to the reflective mind" (7)

6. Always coy, sometimes triumphal (4) 7. His indicator, when driving, may be said to be L (7)

be L (?)

8. Thanksriving, of course (9, 6)

14. On her eve, "the owl, for all his feathers, was a cold" (5)

15. Coal easy to remember (5)

19. Strain (7)

20. Token, perhaps of the foregoing (7) 21. What not to do till the bus stops (4, 3)

22. Enigma, I ! (anagr.) (7)

26. Ban (4)
27. What the clue is, the definition is (4)

The winner of Crossword No. 829 is:

Mr. F. Hudd,

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